

Labor-1927

Discrimination. N. C. Mill Sup- plants Negro Labor With White Help

New Owners Of Hawthorne Mills Propose To Use All White Labor

Fayetteville, N. C., Aug. 12—(PNS) With one of the mills of the plant already in operation, the new owners of the Hawthorne silk mills here, are receiving enthusiastic encouragement in their efforts here to place white labor in one of the two factories. The mills have heretofore been run with Negro operatives exclusively, but when the company was recently purchased by Albert Press and A. Brawer, of Patterson, N. J., they proposed to use white weavers in one mill.

Their advertisements for labor of this kind is meeting with an encouraging response, according to officials of the chamber of commerce, who are giving the new owners every assistance in their power.

At first there was considerable apprehension that the plan of using the two races in separated plants would not prove feasible, but it is said that satisfactory arrangements have been worked out and it looks as though the plan will work successfully. It will give employment to hundreds of whites in this section who will take the place of Negroes who in the past had a monopoly on this sort of employment.

It is reported that Mr. Brawer has purchased Mr. Press' interest in the plant and is now sole owner. His son is now in Fayetteville and is said to plan taking control of the manufacturing operations. The Brawers are experienced silk manufacturers and are said to have little faith in Negro workers, claiming that they have never had any experience handling Negroes.

Mr. Brawer says that he expects to have the plant operating at full capacity in a short time and that the payroll will run something over \$6,000 a week. "If I find that the Negro operatives are as good as the whites I may continue to operate the mills as now—one with whites and one with colored workers."

The Hawthorne mills were placed in the hands of a receiver about two years ago. Officials of the chamber of commerce estimate that the present ownership will soon have the mills run-

ning steady and exceeding their former capacity by a much larger scale.

N. C. MILL SUPPLANTS NEGRO LABOR WITH WHITE EMPLOYEES

(Preston News Service)
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that the Negro operatives are as good as the whites I may continue to operate the mills as now—one with whites and one with colored workers."

PUT WHITE LABOR IN SILK MILL

Northerners Acquire N. Carolina Plant Discharge Negroes

MANY OUT OF WORK

Special to the Journal and Guide
Fayetteville, N. C., Aug. 10.—The Hawthorne silk mills here are replacing Negro with white labor in one of their factories here. Both mills have heretofore been run with Negro operatives exclusively. Recently the plant was purchased by Albert Press and A. Brawer, of Patterson, N. J., who set about to use white weavers in one mill. Advertisements for white labor are meeting with response, it is reported, and the local chamber of commerce is lending enthusiastic encouragement to the new owners in their efforts to recruit white labor.

It is stated that at first there was considerable apprehension that the plan of using the two races in separate plants would prove feasible, but it is said that satisfactory arrangements have been worked out and it looks as though the plan will work successfully. It will give employment to hundreds of whites in this section who will take the place of Negroes who in the past had a monopoly on this sort of employment.

Lack Faith In Negroes

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CHRONICLE SPOKANE, WASH.

Review

JUN 8 1927
AT THE CITY HOTELS

OUT COLORED WAITERS

SILVER GRILL EMPLOYS WHITE WAITRESSES.

Management Believes Public Favors Change From Service Long Employed.

Twelve young white women have succeeded the colored men, so long an institution at the Silver Grill. Many of the colored men have been retained for the banquet rooms and deliveries upstairs.

"The public expects changes, new ideas," said Frank E. Bond, manager, in explaining the innovation yesterday. "The public likes the change and spoke of it in complimentary terms."

"The uniform of the girls is a two-piece dress of black poplin with white cuffs and collars, white stockings and white shoes. The caps are of white Devonshire interwoven with black ribbons and bearing the initials of the Silver Grill, all designed and produced by the White Apron company of Spokane, which succeeded in keeping away from the bodice effect, uncomfortable for work in warm weather."

L. H. Dreis of Minneapolis, Minn., has joined the clerical staff of the Halliday hotel. He came from the Morris T. Baker hotel organization which has two houses in Minneapolis where he passed two years at the desk.

G. J. Falk, farmer, St. John, is at the Pacific.

H. Lebold, farmer, Palouse, is at the Dessert.

John Monroe, merchant, Malden, is at the Atlantic.

A. D. Dunn, wool grower, Wapato, is at the Spokane.

L. V. Ellis, merchant, Meyers Falls, is at the Pedicord.

F. O. Russell, merchant, Chewelah, is at the Palmerston.

J. C. Kincaid, hotel owner, Pomeroy, is at the Victoria.

J. I. Diehl, lumberman, Colville, and wife are at the Halliday.

F. M. Lyle, wheat grower, Hatton, and wife are at the Arlington.

Daniel McGoarty, merchant, Kellogg, Idaho, is at the Ridpath.

D. W. Wallace, farmer, Garfield, and wife are at the Palmerston.

J. H. Edwards, automobile dealer, Washtucna, is at the Spokane.

C. C. Chambers, lumberman, Fernwood, Idaho, is at the Halliday.

Theodore Winters, real estate dealer, Coeur d'Alene, is at the Pennington.

James D. Hall, automobile dealer, Republic, and wife are at the Victoria.

Mrs. E. V. Ellington, wife of a faculty member, Pullman, is at the Pennington.

Fred Masterson, merchant, Kalispell, Mont., and wife are at the Coeur d'Alene.

JASPER COUNTY REGULA- TORS

A few "hundred per centers" in Jasper county, S. C., may be conversant of their kind that infest Jasper county, Ga., and attempted to intimidate them by ordering law-abiding and hard working colored citizens out of the county. The good white citizens of the South Carolina county are in the ascendancy and will not stand for the action of the few "hundred per centers," and have "nipped" their ambition in the "bud." Ridge-land, S. C., is the home of a large number of thrifty colored people, lawabiding. The most cordial racial relations have existed there. Recently a few selfish whites conceived the idea of forcing a few colored mechanics away by making dire threats. Their bluff was called by the friendly white citizens who declared that the colored mechanics will not be molested. May their number increase.

GIBSON HOTEL REPLACES NEGROES WITH WHITES

Associated Negro Press
CINCINNATI, Ohio, Feb. 23—The Gibson Hotel, one of the largest Hotels in the Country, let out the entire force of colored waiters, and replaced them with whites. A former dishwasher who now manages the hotel, said he did not like Negroes.

NEGRO LABOR SUPPLANTED BY WHITE LABOR

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now—one with whites and one with colored workers."

ORDER NEGRO LABORERS TO
LEAVE BENTON

Benton, Ark., June 4 (ANP)—All Negro laborers employed by the Benton Gravel Company were ordered to leave this town before Sunday, Saturday, by a posse of and white-robed men Friday. The robed figures declared that the Negroes were taking the place of white men with the company and that

this would not be tolerated. The officials of the company, when apprised of the order, placed a cordon of guards around the plant and the homes of the workers and declared that every protection would be given the colored laborers.

Whites for a long time did most of the work at the plant, and it is said they were replaced by Negroes when found unreliable and generally unsatisfactory. Since the Negroes have been employed the output of the company has been increased and the work carried on with greater facility.

Labor - 1927.

Domestic Service HIGH PRICE OF COLORED HELP

Washington, D. C., Feb. 14.—Representative A. L. Griffin of New York, speaking before the committee appropriations of the Labor Department Supply Bill, deplored the fact that: "Many families are obliged to resort to colored help and the consequence of that has been a very marked increase in the colored population of larger cities. In New York, for instance, the colored population is spreading to a remarkable extent and they practically control the household labor situation. They are getting prices for their labor beyond anything that was ever paid to the old class of household servants who came from Germany, Austria and the British Isles."

Yes, the time has come when a colored maid can no longer be hired for three dollars a week and a room in the basement; and colored butlers for ten dollars and rooms over the garage. Those who want servants now must pay for them. The high cost of living of these servants demands higher salaries.

The Representative would probably do well to have the laws governing immigration amended in order that Germany or Austria might send over a ship load of servants. This in turn would help to earn for our girls or boys positions instead of jobs. For when there were no more openings for them as maids, porters, butlers and the like, they would naturally prepare themselves for something higher.

NEGROES HOLD DOMESTIC SERVICE MONOPOLY

Associated Negro Press

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 26.—Speaking before the committee appropriations of the Labor Department Supply Bill, Representative Anthony J. Griffin of New York, deplored the high cost of domestic servants and declared: in his district: "many families are obliged to resort to colored help and the consequences of that has been a very marked in-

crease in the colored population of larger cities. In New York, for instance, they practically control the household labor situation. They are getting prices for their labor far beyond anything that was ever paid to the old class of household servants who came from Germany, Austria and the British Isles."

In complaining, however, the representative from New York forgot to mention the cost of living of these employees and general living standards of this particular class.

NEGRO SERVANTS INCREASE

Representative Griffin Says They Get
More Than Did Whites

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Negro household domestics are increasing in number in New York City and are receiving higher wages than were formerly paid to servants from Germany, Austria and the British Isles, according to a statement made before the House Committee on Appropriations today by Representative Anthony J. Griffin of New York, a member of the committee.

Francis I. Jones, director general of the United States Employment Service, who was before the committee, said that he had given close study to the question of household help and that he had found there was a shortage of supply in the cities of New York, Philadelphia, Boston and other New England cities, and generally throughout the North Atlantic States.

INCREASING DEMAND FOR COLORED HELP REVEALED

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 27.—Negro household domestics are increasing in number in New York City and are receiving higher wages than were formerly paid to servants from Germany, Austria and the British Isles, according to a statement made before the House Committee on Appropriations today by Representative Anthony J. Griffin of New York, a member of the committee.

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A WORTHY CAUSE PRESENTED

To the Editor The Birmingham News:

The new community service carried on by the M. & F. A. Auxiliary is progressing nicely. We have been able to place into white homes a goodly number of efficient servants. The domestic science teacher is trying hard to keep many servants prepared ahead.

Now, anyone that needs a servant of any kind out of the Negro race to serve in white homes, please phone 5-4990, the home of the M. & F. A. Auxiliary, 113 Avenue F, West.

The kindergarten department, domestic science department, nursery department for working women and the welfare department are making good, notwithstanding the M. & F. A. Auxiliary is much in need of financial help to take care of the expenses of the home. As we know, to make our teachers interested in their work is to pay them their salary. Also to make the doctors give close examination of the servants is to pay them their salary. And to keep such service as rendered by the M. & F. A. Auxiliary is to help the M. & F. A. Auxiliary pay its indebtedness.

As it is the object of the M. & F. A. Auxiliary to recommend Negro servants to white homes who have capable ability and also that are free from disease, we humbly ask the white friends for their moral and financial support. There is no personal gain to anyone, just simply to serve the needs of humanity. We need a suitable building to carry on each department of work. It is estimated that \$10,000 will put us on the way to the goal.

The M. & F. A. Auxiliary hopes to teach the Negro race that it is a high privilege to serve and not a disgrace, and that the Southern white man is a friend to the Negro race.

THE M. & F. A. AUXILIARY.

James R. Grattan, L. President; Dr. A. D. Stones, General Superintendent; Rev. J. E. Love, S. P.

DOMESTIC DECREASE ONLY ONE PER CENT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—That the race group is maintaining its average in domestic service is revealed by report recently released by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

According to this report those working in domestic service decreased less than one per cent during the period from 1900 to 1920; during this same period the native white domestics from 30 per cent to 17 per cent; native whites of foreign parentage from 30 per cent to 16 per cent and foreign born whites from 53 to 35 per cent.

NEGRO DOMESTIC SERVANTS MAINTAIN THEIR AVERAGE

Washington, July 15.—The cry, "It's hard to keep a cook," does not seem to apply to Negro domestics, according to the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which has recently discovered that from 1900 to 1920 native white domestics decreased from 30 per cent to 17 per cent; native whites of foreign parentage from 30 per cent to 16; and

foreign-born whites from 53 to 35 per cent; while Negro domestics, who rated at 51 per cent in 1900, decreased only to 50.3 cent during the twenty-year period.

Labor-1927.

Foreign.

Bars Haitian Laborers

WASHINGTON—According to a release just issued by the U. S. Department of Labor, the Secretary of Agriculture in Cuba is reported to have advised the Cuban Sugar Mill Owners' and Planters' Association, which petitioned unrestricted authorization to import as many Jamaican and Haitian laborers as might be deemed necessary for the harvesting of the 1927 crop, that the Government cannot allow the free entry of such laborers except when it is absolutely necessary, and with the provision that the companies or persons bringing them into the country offer the necessary guarantee that as soon as the crop is harvested they will be repatriated.

TEXANS WILL FIGHT QUOTA ON MEXICANS

They Declare Influx of Farm Labor Is Necessary for Prosperity of State.

BUSINESS AGAINST A CURB

Mexicans Are Good Spenders and Try to Better Themselves Here, Say Chamber of Commerce Heads.

Special to The New York Times.

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Dec. 3.—Chambers of Commerce in Texas, headed by the San Antonio chamber, will make a stiff fight against the proposals of those who advocate that Congress put Mexican immigrants on a quota basis.

Figures of the Department of Labor on the number of Mexicans in the United States and the number of immigrants arriving from Mexico will be challenged by the chambers, officers of which assert that countless errors exist in the department's reports.

Texas needs Mexican immigrants, the chambers hold. Without a constant flow of laborers, Texas farmers could not produce their immense crops of cotton and other agricultural products, it is declared.

"Mexico sends us laborers who help us with our crops," said Porter

Whaley, President of the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce this week. "Moreover, the Mexican has one trait entirely different from any of the European laborers who come to the United States. The Mexican is a spender. That benefits all kinds of business. The majority of our business men, about 90 per cent., are opposed to the placing of Mexican immigrants on a quota basis.

Tells of Big Farming Plan.

"We in Texas are confronted with a peculiar problem. Our farmers need help by seasons. The Mexican arrives here and gradually works all through the various parts of Texas, following the crops. Without this labor Texas agriculture would drop and our State, which is developing by leaps and bounds, would stand still.

"Near San Antonio, within a short time, there will be opened a large tract of land for farming, about 150,000 acres. This land will practically be given away to farmers who will develop it. There are many more tracts like this, and where will we get the Mexican labor necessary to develop these new farming districts if Mexicans are placed upon a quota basis, which will permit about 1,517 Mexican laborers to enter the United States each year?

"A great majority of the Chamber of Commerce and I, myself, am opposed to placing any country on this continent on a quota basis. This is one continent, and we should have free intercourse with all our neighbors."

Another Official Protests.

R. H. Smith, President of the Central Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Texas, said that the entire southwestern part of the State was against the proposed quota law.

"Texas needs these Mexican immigrants," he said. "They are absolutely necessary for our development."

"There is something behind this proposed quota bill besides the wish to keep out Mexican farm laborers. The American Federation of Labor is backing this bill. Texas is practically an open shop. Although there are many unions, the federation believes that Mexican immigrants will prevent the unions from gaining control of all industries and other enterprises.

"Many Americans fail to understand the psychology of the Mexican. They believe they are all ignorant and untrustworthy. That is not so. Any one who has dealt with the Mexican people will say that these immigrants, after being in the United States for a short period, are always trying to better themselves. They buy modern merchandise and many buy homes and become permanent inhabitants of Texas.

Stronger Border Patrol Urged.

"What we need is a stronger border patrol which will prevent undesirable Europeans from entering the United States. Groups of immigrants, smuggled across the river,

are captured almost daily. The great majority are Italians and other Europeans. Some are Chinese.

"The Italians, when questioned, invariably say that they are on their way to Detroit, having heard in Italy that an automobile manufacturer was paying \$5 a day for laborers. Not one wants farm work.

"The Mexican immigrants are absolutely necessary to us, and the entire Southwest Chamber of Commerce is ready to fight this proposed quota bill, which would cause grave damage to Texas," Mr. Smith concluded.

COLOR QUESTION STIRS FEDERATION OF LABOR CONVENTION. BARS ON ALIEN DARKER RACES

Los Angeles, Calif., Oct. 8.—(By A. N. P.)—It is a well known fact that the scarcity of labor for Negroes in California is due to Negro labor being crowded out of its natural right by the Mexicans who swarm over the border and work for a much lower scale of wages than Negroes or whites could be employed. Work which would naturally fall to Negroes, is thus allotted to them.

Present reaction against these conditions while not intended primarily to benefit Negroes will do so if intended bars materialize. Resolutions unanimously passed at the State Federation of Labor convention at San Bernardino call upon Congress to take three important steps to keep these western shores American and white. These were: (1) To place Mexico under the quota law. (2) To pass a Congressional act prohibiting Filipino laborers from immigrating to the United States, either by direct route or via Hawaii. (3) To immediately take steps to give the Filipinos their independence. Behind this is seen a move to protect white labor on the coast, for with the Philippines free their people would cease to be proteges of Uncle Sam and as a nation would naturally come under the Oriental exclusion laws.

THE MEXICAN MENACE

A plan is on foot to restrict the immigration of Mexican laborers from the republic to the South. Fine! There are already almost a million Mexican laborers in this country, mainly in the Southwest. Coming with a much lower standard of living than the Negroes, whose number in Texas they exceed by two or three hundred thousand, they constitute a considerable menace to the economic position of the Negro. Listed as whites, attending white schools and given free access to all public institutions where Negroes are either segregated or forbidden entrance, they are being used as a buffer class between whites and Negroes. In time they will doubtless force the Negroes into an economic position as low or lower than their own, just as the European immigrants did in the North and East before the restrictive legislation was passed a few years ago.

There was little point anyway in restricting European immigration and leaving down the bars to immigration from the latin American countries, where most of the people have just as low standards of living as the European peasants. The Mexicans are being used as laborers on the railroads, on public works and on the farms, thus taking the places of many Negro workers. Of course the employers in the Southwest want unrestricted immigration of Mexican labor because it enables them to keep wages low, hours long and labor docile, but Negro workers, if they understand their interests, will remain unalterably opposed to it. It is hard enough for Negroes to make an adequate living as it is, without bringing in more laborers to menace their position.

CORCORAN, CAL.
DEC 9 1927

If Mexicans are barred, there is left as a labor reservoir to draw on, the Southern negro, Porto Rican negroes and Filipinos. These cannot be barred out, nor can they be deported if we become dissatisfied with them. So they might become a much greater social problem than the "homing pigeon" Mexican. All of these are facts the Congressional committee may well look into; and the California Development Association, the Chambers of Commerce and the various informal groups of farmers have joined the regular farm organizations in asking that we get the facts before we act.

EXAMINER

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

DEC 10 1927

Portuguese Consul To Get Appeal of Yountville Negroes

VALLEJO, Dec. 10.—Yountville negroes will appeal to the Portuguese consul at San Francisco to save them from expulsion from the Napa Valley at the hands of irate white laborers.

Most of the negroes at Yountville, it was reported last night by a delegation of Vallejo negroes who visited the community, are subjects of Portugal and many of them do not speak English. The Vallejo negroes, who answered an appeal for help on the ground that a race war impended, declare that reports of the trouble have been exaggerated.

Rev. W. R. Lovell, who headed the Vallejo delegation says that most of the trouble is due to the fact that the negroes are given preference on ranches because they work for lower wages than the white laborers will accept.

Labor - 1927.

Migration Movement.

LABOR IN THE SOUTH

Northerners are aware that changes are going on in the conditions in the South, though they do not always know just what they are. They think that in the main going just as fast as the workers learn to expect wages in the South are remaining and use the improvements offered. Lower than in the North they are. Organized labor leaders protest, but glad to believe that the exploitation most of the workers see no malevolent of child labor has somewhat abated connection between better wages and and continue to decrease. Formalism. Moreover, they are keenly aware of the possibility of losing their jobs to the eager invaders. It is therefore interesting to find in from "out yonder."

The July number of The American Federationist an article written about the position of the Southern worker from his point of view.

Roswell W. Henninger of North Carolina State College appears to have

done some personal investigation in manufacturing districts of the South. He classifies them according to the location of the factories: a single plant or small group in a rural district, which offers alternative employment to farm workers; the semi-rural location of factories just outside a city's limits, and the well defined industrial area within a city's boundaries. From the worker's point of view, these three classes represent three stages in progress toward better living conditions, with the city as the highest point.

Each class offers its own problems to the workers. Probably those who have just left the farms and the mountains to work in the nearest factory are the nearest to contentment, though the worst off materially. Even their very low wages, with the life of the mill village, make possible such a difference in social and educational standards that they feel themselves rich in comparison with the limited life they have left. Employers do not find them hard to please. They are glad to find village living conditions an improvement over the mountain farm home and are pleased to have accessible schools for their children.

The semi-rural and city factories easily find plenty of willing labor. Here, however, efforts are made to get the workers to organize. A curious picture is presented of employers trying to improve the condition of their men, with the mass of employed

accepting "paternalistic" help thankfully and refusing to rise to follow the restless few who see danger in such to-better working conditions voluntarily. They rely. They are in the main going just as fast as the workers learn to expect wages in the South are remaining and use the improvements offered. Lower than in the North they are. Organized labor leaders protest, but glad to believe that the exploitation most of the workers see no malevolent of child labor has somewhat abated connection between better wages and and continue to decrease. Formalism. Moreover, they are keenly aware of the possibility of losing their jobs to the eager invaders. It is therefore interesting to find in from "out yonder."

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Each class offers its own problems to the workers. Probably those who have just left the farms and the mountains to work in the nearest factory are the nearest to contentment, though the worst off materially. Even their very low wages, with the life of the mill village, make possible such a difference in social and educational standards that they feel themselves rich in comparison with the limited life they have left. Employers do not find them hard to please. They are glad to find village living conditions an improvement over the mountain farm home and are pleased to have accessible schools for their children.

The semi-rural and city factories easily find plenty of willing labor. Here, however, efforts are made to get the workers to organize. A curious picture is presented of employers trying to improve the condition of their men, with the mass of employed

accepting "paternalistic" help thankfully and refusing to rise to follow the restless few who see danger in such to-better working conditions voluntarily. They rely. They are in the main going just as fast as the workers learn to expect wages in the South are remaining and use the improvements offered. Lower than in the North they are. Organized labor leaders protest, but glad to believe that the exploitation most of the workers see no malevolent of child labor has somewhat abated connection between better wages and and continue to decrease. Formalism. Moreover, they are keenly aware of the possibility of losing their jobs to the eager invaders. It is therefore interesting to find in from "out yonder."

The July number of The American Federationist an article written about the position of the Southern worker from his point of view.

Roswell W. Henninger of North Carolina State College appears to have

found in the exodus, not only from Mobile, but from Little Rock, Memphis and other cities with large negro population, reported in press dispatches. Whether Birmingham has escaped or not is not clearly known. But that it might not escape and in consequence suffer a labor handicap and its departing negroes be confronted with starvation conditions on arrival, is altogether possible.

The situation appears to warrant some measure of preventive activity, not alone because Birmingham's industrial prosperity requires negro labor in the bulk, but because of the responsibility of the city toward its negro population which is not well equipped to understand that wild tales of fabulous wages and social preferment are not always true, and that conditions in Chicago, despite propaganda to the contrary, are not adapted to the southern negro's needs. Leaders of the race and employers will do well to caution negro labor to think twice before moving.

THE NEGRO EXODUS

(From the Birmingham Age-Herald)

A statement recently issued by the city commission of Mobile says:

This commission's attention has been called to the fact that many Negroes are leaving the South, going to Chicago with a promise of social favor and rich employment. We are not in the slightest degree inclined to become involved in the political situation of the metropolis of the West; however, we do feel an interest in all economic conditions affecting the welfare of this country and believe that there is a better understanding between the Negro and the white man of the South than in any other section, we are sufficiently interested to request that they seriously consider a movement of this character before taking this action, especially in view of the fact that unemployment is so widespread in the city of Chicago. We are informed that there are now more than 25,000 Negroes out of employment in that city.

Obviously the Mobile commissioners feel that they are justified in combatting propaganda issuing from Chicago, in effect that that city is a haven for Negroes, else they would not make a statement which might easily be construed as interference in another community's affairs. That there may well be provocation for their action is to be

found in the exodus, not only from Mobile, but from Little Rock, Memphis and other cities with large Negro population, reported in press dispatches. Whether Birmingham has escaped or not is not clearly known. But that it might not

escape and in consequence suffer a labor handicap and its departing Negroes be confronted with starvation conditions on arrival, is altogether possible.

The situation appears to warrant some measure of preventive activity, not alone because Birmingham's industrial prosperity requires Negro labor in the bulk, but because of the responsibility of the city toward its Negro population which is not well equipped to understand that wild tales of fabulous wages and social conditions in Chicago, despite propaganda to the contrary, are not adapted to the Southern Negro's needs. Leaders of the race and employers will do well to caution Negro labor to think twice before moving.

Atlanta, Ga. JOURNAL

Negro Farm Migration Leaves South Unharmful

CHICAGO, Jan. 12.—(P)—The large migration of the negro from the south to the north did not affect the southern farming communities as has been generally supposed, Dr. W. A. C. Hughes, of Philadelphia, director of the bureau of negro work of the Methodist Episcopal board of home missions and church extension, declared in a report to the home missions council Tuesday.

Dr. Hughes said the 1920 census showed 6,661,332 negroes living in southern rural communities in the south Atlantic, east and south central divisions. There are 915,555 negro farmers, an increase, he said, of 70,515 since 1910.

VALDOSTA, GA. NEWS

NEGROES ARE AGAIN LURED TO CHICAGO

Under Promise of High Wages and Social Equality Southern Blacks are Deceived

Atlanta, Ga., April 12.—Reports received here state that many negroes are again being induced to go

from Southern cities to Chicago under the promise of high wages and social equality, two things they find later, in cases from Georgia, do not exist for negroes in Chicago. Also it is said there now are about 25,000 Southern negroes out of work in Chicago, and that many of them are in want.

Just what is back of the attempt to lure negroes from the South to Northern centers is not very clear, according to Georgia agricultural leaders. Whatever it is, it was asserted here, the negroes are the ultimate victims, for they invariably find the promises false and learn too late that they have been deceived. Most of those who are induced to go to the North are financially unable to get back to their Southern homes again.

"The Southern negro who goes to Chicago, or any other Northern city expecting to find conditions better than in Southern cities or communities invariably meets with disappointment," said a local railway official. "The several thousands of negroes who were deceived into going to the North several years ago furnished an object lesson that should have an influence now upon the movements of negroes away from the South. Some of those who left their work and their homes in the South to seek fancy wages and social equality are still in the North, with no wages at all and nothing that even remotely resembles social equality. They are too poor to get back where they belong, in the South."

Officials of the Georgia Department of Agriculture, in discussing the situation, points to the fact that "the negro belongs in the South." They show that he does better in the South than anywhere else, but he does not have social equality in the South and does not expect it.

"In the North he is among people who do not understand him, who do not care whether he has food or not, who would not under any circumstances extend social equality, and who pay fancy wages only when they cannot get along without paying them," said a leading Georgia farmer who was at the state capitol. "The untrained negro worker, of course, cannot command more than the pay of an untrained worker, either in the North or the South, and to promise him more merely is to try to deceive him. The best thing the Southern negro can do is to stay in the South."

APR 29 1927

Negro Exodus is Confined To Larger Cities

Reports received here state that negro workers in the larger industrial centers of the South, notably Birmingham, New Orleans and Memphis, are repeating the blunder they made several years ago of leaving good jobs in the South to seek what they think will be better ones in Northern cities.

The migration of negroes this year further state, does not include a great many of those in smaller towns or in rural communities.

Several years ago many negroes abandoned their work and homes in the rural districts in several Southern states to move to the North, Chicago getting great numbers of them. Those negroes, reports showed, learned too late that the promises held out to them were false. Many of them have been able after much difficulty to get back to the South, and they doubtless are cured, leading Florida farmers state. They could tell the negroes that now are leaving the South how grave a mistake they are making, railway officials here assert.

MAY 7 1927

INDUSTRY VS. AGRICULTURE

That there is a growing trend in many of the important industrial centers of the North and Middle West to force the Negro migrant back into the agricultural fields which he has deserted for the factory, cannot be denied. This pernicious influence, frequently exerted by unscrupulous employers, who still seek cheap foreign labor in detriment to American workers, was recently reflected by a northern chamber of commerce, which quietly "round-robin" employers not to hire Negro labor, but to offer each

applicant Negro migrant a free railroad ticket back to the farm.

The Negro farm deserted, who has turned his back upon the unprofitable hand-to-mouth agricultural life which he has been leading for many a decade in country after country in the Southland, is by no means the only agricultural compatriots, too, are fleeing the soil to enter motor works and steel mills. The Negro farmer, however, has had twice as many reasons to seek a change as has the white farmer.

Denied farm credit, harassed by mortgage-holders, being victimized by profiteers, and facing uneven economic competition by reason of educational, marketing, and other gross discriminations, the Negro farmer has long since been facing the devil on one side and the deep blue sea on the other.

It is no wonder that he has felt the urge to lay down the shovel and the hoe to seek the pick and the wrench and the fiery furnace of industry at a wage which would insure him against gambling for bread and meat and rent money.

What is the wonderment of the age, however, is the fact that not a few of the white industrial giants, who ought to be glad to be able to hire simon-pure American labor, have first sought to turn the cold shoulder to the Negro workers. If they really wish to force the Negro out of industry and back to the farm, in favor of Mexicans, Canadians, and "hunkies," they ought to take first-aid steps to capitalize Negro farm life, just as they have capitalized southern industrial life, which offers but scant opportunities to the Negro. It is more than a case of making the Negro engage in industrial rope-jumping. It is to recognize him as an integral factor in American life and American industry. This will eventually be done, —WHY NOT DO IT NOW?

Southern Negroes Lured To Chicago

ATLANTA, Ga.—Reports here say that many negroes again are being induced to go from southern cities to Chicago under the promise of high wages and social equality, two things they find later do not exist for negroes in Chicago as evidenced by past cases from Georgia.

Just what is back of the attempt to lure negroes from the south to northern centers is not very clear, according to Georgia agricultural leaders. Whatever it is, it is asserted, the negroes are the ultimate victims, for they invariably find the promises false and learn too late that they have been deceived. Most of those who are induced to go to the north are financially unable to get back to their southern homes.

The southern negro who goes to Chicago, or any other northern city, expecting to find conditions better than in southern cities or communities invariably meets with disappointment, says a local railway official. The several thousands of negroes who were deceived into going to the north several years ago, furnished an object lesson that should have influence now upon the movements of negroes away from the south. Some of those who left their work and their homes in the south to seek fancy wages and social equality still are in the north, with no wages at all and nothing that even resembles social equality. They are too poor to get back where they belong in the south.

NEWS INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

MAY 6 1927

LABOR AGENTS' ACTIVITIES

It is reported that in some of the southern states labor agents are busy endeavoring to induce colored refugees to leave the south and come north. This is a more serious business than it would appear to be from a mere statement of the fact. Most of the southern states impose penalties on agents that endeavor to induce Negro laborers to leave. Some of the states require a per capita tax from such agents. Farm labor in the cotton belt is not more than sufficient to take care of local requirements. In other words, the farm laborer is in demand. He usually hires himself out for a year and with bag and baggage is moved by his new employer to the plantation where he is provided with a house and garden patch. As a rule he is staked until the crop matures when he receives his pay in money or shares, adjusts his account and lays his plans for the next year. Farming is his business, and northern agents who seek his services for factory or other labor purposes in the north are not made welcome. So we hear that vigilance committees are forming in the south at this time to prevent these agents from running off with the labor. There ought to be mutual sympathy between the north and south in this matter. The south knows how to get along with the Negro, and certainly needs his labor to such a degree that he will treat him right to retain his services. Particularly this year the river states in the south will need all the labor they can command. To take it away will be to add hardships to a section that needs help.

ASHEVILLE, N. C. CITIZEN

MAY 4 1927

THE NEGRO OF THE SOUTH (Houston Post-Dispatch)

Reports on employment conditions for negroes in numerous Northern centers are not such as to encourage further migration of negroes from the South to the North. According to the industrial relations department of the National Urban League "unemployment and curtailment in working hours almost without exception" prevail, and specific reasons are given for the shortage of work among negroes in various cities. The unfavorable conditions are of varied origin, but in many places

they are the result of well defined efforts to discriminate against negro workmen. This has been going on, in greater or lesser degree, since the war. Northern while workmen resent the competition of negro workmen. These later developments only confirm the view that the negro finds his best opportunity in the South, and in the rural districts. The negro in the South who can manage to own his farm is just about the most independent member of his race.

Dawson, Ga. News

APR 26 1927

SOUTHERN NEGROES LURED TO CHICAGO

HIGH WAGES AND SOCIAL EQUALITY ARE HELD OUT AS BAIT FOR THEM.

ATLANTA, Ga.—Reports here say that many negroes again are being induced to go from southern cities to Chicago under the promise of high wages and social equality, two things they find later do not exist for negroes in Chicago, as evidenced by past cases from Georgia.

Just what is back of the attempt to lure negroes from the south to northern centers is not very clear, according to Georgia agricultural leaders. Whatever it is, it is asserted, the negroes are the ultimate victims, for they invariably find the promises false and learn too late that they have been deceived. Most of those who are induced to go to the north are financially unable to get back to their southern homes again.

The southern negro who goes to Chicago, or any other northern city, expecting to find conditions better than in southern cities or communities invariably meets with disappointment, says a local railway official. The several thousands of negroes who were deceived into going to the north several years ago furnished an object lesson that should have influence now upon the movements of negroes away from the south. Some of those who left their work and their homes in the south to seek fancy wages and social equality still are in the north, with no wages at all and nothing that even remotely resembles social equality. They are too poor to get back where they belong, in the south.

Labor - 1927

Migration Movement

DIXIE STIRRED BY MIGRATION OF THE NEGRO

Cities Sense Real Crisis As
Exodus of Race Citizens
To the North Becomes
Increasingly Large

ATLANTA, Ga., June 25 — The southern states are becoming alarmed as a new wave of migration among colored Americans is reported to be sweeping the South. The exodus to the North has been definitely reported by authorities in most of the southern states. The situation is especially evident in Louisiana and Alabama, and these states authorities are debating means of keeping their colored citizens.

Better Treatment Needed

The suggestion put forth as to ways and means of stopping the migration have been wide and numerous. Seeing the necessity of giving the colored American better treatment if they hope for them to continue to live below the Mason, Dixon line, plans for improvement of their conditions have been especially prominent.

Would Hold Workers

Another suggestion is the enactment of legislation similar to Georgia's which makes it unlawful for any labor agent to recruit colored workers for any city outside the state. Agents from Northern cities are particularly active now, it is said.

Another proposal would be to make conditions more attractive for the colored citizen so he would not be lured away so easily by promises of better jobs and more money in the North. Best authorities in the South admit living conditions for the Negro are anything but desirable.

The only way it is pointed out for the Southern cities to keep their colored workers is to build better schools, better houses and better streets in the race sections, and higher wages and more money for recreational purposes and public parks.

Metropolis Feel Effects

The cities of Birmingham and New Orleans are said to be losing race population steadily, and vigorous campaigns have been launched in both localities to check the exodus.

The labor commissioner of Louisiana is authority for the statement. Orleans will face a "crisis" if the ranks of colored workers in the employ of contracting firms are further depleted.

OUR GROUP START A NEW MIGRATION

Southern States Again Losing
Them; Law Sought to
Combat Move

Atlanta, June 24.—A Race migration to the North is reported under way, and authorities of some of the Southern States, especially Louisiana and Alabama, are debating a number of proposals to combat it.

One of these would be the enactment of legislation, similar to Georgia's, which makes it unlawful for any labor agent to recruit Race workers for any city outside of the State. Agents from northern cities are particularly active now, it is said.

Another proposal would be to make conditions more attractive for our group, so they would not be lured away so easily by promises of better jobs and more money in the North. Best authorities in the South admit living conditions for our group are anything but desirable.

The only way, it is pointed out, for the southern cities to keep their workers of our group is to build better schools, better houses, and better streets in the sections for our groups, and higher wages and more money for recreational purposes and public parks.

Losing Population

The cities of Birmingham and New Orleans are said to be losing Race population steadily, and vigorous campaigns have been launched in both localities to check the exodus.

The labor commissioner of Louisiana is authority for the statement that the building trades in New Orleans will face a "crisis" if the ranks of workers of our group in the employ of contracting firms are further depleted.

Take Legal Steps

The first legal steps to control the

situation were taken in Alabama, where the legislature has enacted a statute prohibiting any person from inducing workmen to leave the State "through grandiose promises of economic and social betterment." Georgia has had such a law for several years, and at least a dozen have been convicted of the offense and sent to the State prison.

WATCHERS MEET DIXIE TRAINS

Birmingham Acts To Head Off Migration Of Workers

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., (PCNB.) — Regardless of the legislative enactments of Southern States which make it unlawful for any labor agent to recruit Negro workers for any city outside of the state, the South is daily losing vast numbers.

Situation Acute

So acute has become the situation in Birmingham and New Orleans that local authorities have launched vigorous campaigns to check the exodus, which according to the labor commissioner of Louisiana has reached a "crisis" in New Orleans among the building trades in which the Negro is a factor whose services cannot be dispensed with.

An appeal was recently issued to the Negroes by the director of industrial relations of the Chamber of Commerce in which Negro labor was reminded of the fact that the South is the home of the Negro and that he is always "assured of the best treatment here."

In Birmingham the situation has reached the stage that the Chamber of Commerce has appointed men to watch all outgoing trains in an effort to dissuade the Negroes from leaving the city.

NEGRO MIGRATION GAINS

Negro migration, which has kept a faltering pace, even since 1922, find now a cause for some impetus. This is the indication from reports given out at those centers where migrants get on and get off. These are unfortunate happenings that are responsible for the unusual increase and these happenings are contributing much to the unsettled conditions of labor.

Right now there is a slow down in industrial activities and the brunt of the migration is felt by these cities to which the migrant goes.

But the dearth of labor will be soon felt in the centers from which they come when the resumption of normal production is restored. This wave, like all other waves of migration, is a phase of the social and economic problem of the South.

The flood as a physical cause and unjust treatment as a social cause are combined. The number of unfortunate lynchings and spotted disturbance have done their part. It is now easy to start a wave of migration because most Negroes have learned that there is more than one place in the world in which to live and that the matter of trying to find the best one, though attended with some difficulties, is a duty that every Negro owes himself and his children.

We wish it were possible that the Negro might be happy and content in the land of his birth. Certainly, he would prosper in good proportion to his opportunities, but prosperity is not all of life and no one can blame him for trying to find a place where he can feel safe and enjoy the products of his labor to a fuller extent. Naturally there will be some suffering; some few may die but those who survive will find conditions more tolerable. The Negro population of the United States is being slowly redistributed and those incidents of maltreatment and oppression that give impetus to migration only hasten the eventual ultimate show down of the principles of American democracy.

C.S. Johnson Traces Migration From Farms To Cities, Then To Industrial Centers Of North

Ford Employed 11,000 Race Workers In Detroit; 16,900 Were In Pittsburgh Steel Mills

(Editor's Note: The article below was delivered as an address by Mr. Charles S. Johnson, Editor of Opportunity Magazine, before the annual conference of the N. A. A. C. P. at Indianapolis recently. Mr. Johnson is head of the Department of Investigations and Research for the National Urban League and is a recognized authority on economic questions.)

BY CHARLES S. JOHNSON
(Editor of "Opportunity")
NEW YORK, June 30.—It is not possible to think of the economic position of Negroes over the long period of their contact with American institutions, as one progressive evolution from slavery to independence, or continuously from a lower to

a higher level of advantage. The picture is confused, its elements constantly shifting. Slavery was a form of organized black labor which debased free white labor as it spent itself. The experience for Negroes demonstrated at least two important facts:

(a) That economic motives can frequently control racial "instincts," as indicated in the willingness of one class of whites to use black labor to crush out the life of another class of the same race.

(b) That where it is profitable to the dominant institution, for Negroes to become skilled, they do, despite the careful theories to support their incapacity. The skill of Negro slave carpenters and masons built many of the fine old mansions still standing as epoch marks of the American feudal system. In practically every state of the South the skill of these slave craftsmen that could be leased and traded profitably by owners of slaves, forced white mechanics to protest, emigration and riot.

The institution created a tradition of "Negro jobs" which survived for many years after emancipation. This tradition, with all its spiritual handicaps, was for many years a protection for Negro labor from the free competition which they later felt so acutely.

The exigencies of an early economic system founded upon cotton culture contributed several factors which have revealed themselves significantly in later years.

(a) The mass population was drawn from the four states—Virginia, Maryland and the Carolinas, where 87 per cent of them once lived, to the delta stretches of the lower South where plantations were possible and where they remained after their emancipation.

(b) Seventy-five per cent of the entire race was established in agriculture.

(c) The unvarying use of the soil for cotton gradually exhausted it, diminishing its returns as the population increased.

(d) The increased struggle for existence was marked by an enormous and mounting Negro general death rate, and an extraordinary proportion of Negro women and children at work.

(c) These factors, with the liberation, through the breakdown of slavery, of the white laboring class, and their consequent free competition, contributed to that restlessness which found expression in movement to cities, movement to new lands South and West, and, as a final phase, to the industrial centers of the North.

Just prior to the Northward migration of Negroes, which became pronounced in 1918, the situation of Negroes may be summarized as follows:

(a) The white laboring class in

the South had overcome much of its traditional attitude toward Negro jobs; it was developing a working class consciousness, and gradually pushing Negroes from practically all lines except domestic service.

(b) Competition in agriculture had become severe in the new territories.

(c) The Negro movement to cities had glutted the market holding down wages and increasing the fears of white labor.

(d) Scarcely more than 10,000 Negroes a year were permanently added to the Northern States because of the competition of foreign immigration labor. Each year there came new additions equal in volume to the entire Negro population of the North.

(c) Their insufficient numbers in the North and their consequent uselessness in volume, to industry, made them as a corollary, unessential to trades unions, and they were kept out of them.

(f) Where Italian, Polish, Slavic, Hungarian labor kept them out of the first grades of industrial work, the Germans and Irish and Swedes made serious inroads in their traditional jobs as domestics and caterers, the Greeks destroyed their shoe shining business, and trained English servants supplanted them as butlers and coachmen.

Rapid changes followed the war. Immigration was checked abruptly, new industries were established and the American labor reserve was sought. Later, by legislation, which placed immigration at first on a 3 per cent quota and later on a 2 per cent quota of those of any racial group in the United States in 1890, the regular recruits for industry were drastically and deliberately limited. This legislation reflected certain newly developed racial theories, and designedly limited most severely the Southern Europeans, who had been contributing the largest numbers of unskilled workers for industry. As an example of the reduction, the four countries, Italy, Austria, Hungary and Russia, which in 1910 averaged 600,000 a year, were reduced to less than 6,000. It is for these places that Negroes were wanted and needed most.

Since 1915 approximately 1,200,000 Negroes have moved from South to North. Measurement of industrial centers which have received the largest numbers of southern European recruits for industry will show the largest Negro increase.

Their entrance to industry has been new and precipitous:

(a) Southern Negroes were inducted to these fields even before northern Negroes living nearer them;

(b) In numbers of important establishments they have gone in for the first as strike breakers;

(c) There have been both mass induction and individual induction;

(d) They went first into the lowest grades of work—road building, railroad maintenance, construction, unskilled stock yards work, steel and iron, and later were exposed to semi-skilled and skilled types of work. In 1923 the Department of Labor found that there had been an average increase in skilled lines amounting to 34 per cent, in individual states as much as 186 per cent.

(e) Steel workers in Pittsburgh increased from less than 100 in five plants in 1910 to 16,900 in 23 plants in 1923—21 per cent of all steel workers. Ten per cent of all iron moulders in Chicago are Negroes, despite a population proportion of 3.5 per cent. In Detroit, there are 11,000 Negro workers in the Ford plant; 900 in the Dodge plant; 500 in the Studebaker plant. Between 1910 and 1920 there was a shift of 371,229 Negroes from agricultural pursuits to industry. Of 321 trades in New York City listed in the Census of 1920. Negroes are engaged in some numbers in all but 5 of these. In 175 of these there are more than 50 Negroes employed.

(f) In the shift from agriculture to industry 333,093 Negro women who were working in 1910 were not so recorded in 1920.

(g) The movement was interlocked with numerous social changes in housing, health, education, play.

TAMPA, FLA., Tribune,

JUL 3

SOUTH AROUSED TO KEEP NEGRO IN OWN HAUNTS

Improvement of Living Conditions Is One Plan Discussed

ATLANTA, July 2. — (Tribune Special.)—A new negro migration to the north is reported underway and authorities of some of the southern states, especially Louisiana and Alabama, are debating a number of proposals to combat it.

One of these would be the enactment of legislation, similar to Georgia's, which makes it unlawful for any labor agent to recruit negro workers for any city outside the state. Agents from northern cities are particularly active now, it is said.

Another proposal would be to make

conditions more attractive for the negro, so he would not be lured away so easily by promises of better jobs and more money in the north. Best authorities in the south admit living conditions for the negro are anything but desirable.

The only way, it is pointed out, for the southern cities to keep their negro workers is to build better schools, better houses and better streets in the negro sections, and higher wages and more money for recreational purposes and public parks.

Losing Population

The cities of Birmingham and New Orleans are said to be losing negro population steadily, and vigorous campaigns have been launched in both localities to check the exodus. The labor commissioner of Louisiana is authority for the statement that the building trades in New Orleans will face a "crisis" if the ranks of negro workers in the employ of contracting firms are further depleted.

The director of industrial relations of the chamber of commerce in New Orleans has issued an appeal to the negroes to remain where they are, pointing out the south is the home of the negro and that he is always "assured of the best treatment here."

The negro labor situation is reported more acute in Birmingham, and the chamber of commerce there has appointed agents to watch all outgoing trains in an effort to dissuade the negroes from leaving the city.

Take Legal Steps

The first legal step to control the situation was taken in Alabama where the legislature has enacted a statute prohibiting any person from inducing workmen to leave the state "through grandiose promises of economic and social betterment." Georgia has had such a law for several years and at least a dozen have been convicted of the offense and sent to the state prison.

Social workers however feel that any prohibitive legislation will defeat its own purpose. They feel that laws designed to prevent negro workmen from exercising free choice is sure to build up a structure of dissatisfaction that will tend to hasten rather than retard the exodus to the north. They declare that fairness requires that the negro be allowed the same opportunity as white persons to learn of economic advantages of other parts of the country.

Study of the Negro Exodus.

Mobile Register: Charles S. Wesley, professor of history in Howard University, in his book, "Negro Labor in the United States," discusses the question why negro labor leaves the farm, and concludes that negro labor, like all labor, obeys economic law. It moves in response to opportunity to better its condition. There may be other influencing causes, but this is the main one, and it is encouraging to find this fully recognized not only by the writer, but by some commentators, notably the Kansas City Star, which says:

A few observers noted at the time the movement was primarily if not almost wholly economic. But most of the discussion perhaps related to other causes or imagined causes. It was held the negroes were leaving one section of the country because they had been oppressed there; because of the practice of mob violence, and because of unequal advantages in education and in other respects. Peculiarly enough, no explanation was advanced as to why these same factors, when they had operated previously to a much greater extent than at this particular time, had not produced results than attributed to them.

It has since become evident, however, that this movement of labor, like practically all others, was due to economic conditions of an obvious sort.

It is true that there were other than these basic factors at work. These are listed in the recent study as "contributing social and political" influences. But these, as previously indicated, were not new; and they proved to be only incidental. All workers, of whatever race, ought to be allowed the best possible conditions of labor. That is one question, important enough. But nothing is gained in any case by a confusion of issues. The whole question of a shift of farm population in the United States is best understood and may be rightly dealt with, when it is necessary to be concerned with it, when the economic factors in it are given due weight.

The truth must be recognized that if a remedy is to be found for the steady drift from the land, now quite noticeable in the wheat country, the economic reason for the movement must be honestly and thoroughly investigated.

Labor - 1927

Migration Movement.

WHEELING, W. VA.

MAY 5 1927

Reports received here state that negro workers in the larger industrial centers of the South, notably Birmingham, New Orleans and Memphis, are repeating the blunder they made several years ago of leaving good jobs in the South to seek what they think will be better ones in Northern cities.

The migration of negroes this year, reports further statements, does not include a great many of those in smaller towns or in rural communities.

Several years ago many negroes abandoned their work and homes in rural districts in several Southern states to move to the North, Chicago getting great numbers of them. Those negroes, reports showed, learned too late that the promises held out to them were false. Many of them have been able after much difficulty to get back into the South and they doubtless are cured, leading Georgia farmers state. They could tell the negroes that now are leaving the South how grave a mistake they are making, railway officials here assert.

Atlanta, Ga., April 30.

APR 30 1927

NEGROES GO BACK NORTH

Atlanta, Ga., April 30.—Reports received here state that negro workers in the larger industrial centers of the South, notably Birmingham, New Orleans and Memphis, are repeating the blunder they made several years ago of leaving good jobs in the South to seek what they think will be better ones in Northern cities.

The migration of negroes this year, reports further state, does not include a great many of those in smaller towns or in rural communities.

Several years ago many negroes abandoned their work and homes in the rural districts in several Southern states to move to the North, Chicago getting great numbers of them. Those negroes, reports showed, learned too late that the promises held out to them were false. Many of them have been able after much difficulty to get back into the South, and they doubtless are cured, leading Georgia farmers state. They could tell the negroes that now are leaving the South how grave a mistake they are making, railway officials here assert.

WHEELING, W. VA

Register

APR 26 1927

Negro Exodus From South

The South is again suffering because of a general Negro exodus. Some few years back a great number of Negroes gave up farming to go North and enter industry, then booming because of war demands. After the slump of 1922 many returned, but the movement is again on just when the South needs labor most.

Birmingham boasts 430 new business enterprises gained in the past year, which diversified industries call for much labor and the same conditions, to a lesser degree, exist throughout Louisiana. The result is that the chambers of commerce of the communities affected have called upon the Negro preachers to "exhort" their congregations to remain at home, but despite the pleadings some 3,500 families have left within the past few weeks for the North, the majority going to Chicago under the promise of high wages and "social equality" and where William Hale (Big Bill) Thompson is looked upon after the manner of a god.

So serious has become the situation that the Alabama legislature recently passed a law making it an offense against the state for any person to induce Alabama Negroes to leave the commonwealth under promise of economic and social betterment. Whether such a law would be constitutional in view of that article supposed to protect the right of free speech and free assemblage, will have to be determined when tested, but that such a law should be passed illustrates the extremes to which the South now enjoying heavy industrial activity and with great growth in sight if labor can be supplied, must go to meet the situation.

The Negro of the South is not, as one might suppose, confined to the farms and cotton fields alone. He supplies virtually all of the skilled labor, qualifying as carpenter, plumber, bricklayer, steel worker, machinist, et cetera—therefore his importance. But denied the ballot, restricted to certain spheres of social life, segregated and at times, perhaps, mistreated, the tales of wealth and affluence seeping from the North cannot help but have an effect upon the so-called "educated" darky. However, with his services in such demand and wages being increased he probably would be better off were he to remain in the land to which he is acclimated and accustomed.

INDEPENDENT

Helena Memphis

MAY 3 1927

NEGRO LABOR IN DEMAND.

The negroes of the South show a tendency to desert that section and go to northern cities. Industrial cities and agricultural sections of the South are worried. The negro labor they have been accustomed to command seems to be slipping away from them. There are 400,000 negroes now in Chicago, and they are enjoying unheard of privileges because of the political power they wield in that city.

The negro city of Harlem—part of Greater New York—contains more negroes than some of the largest cities of the South, and so wealthy and important are many of them that they are beginning to be a factor in the art and culture which gain the attention of the white literary intelligentsia of Gotham and the national capital as well as Boston. The number of novels about the negroes written by white writers is rapidly on the increase, and while nothing very distinguished, or which perhaps can be called lasting literature has been achieved, some of the novels at least have displayed sufficient knowledge of the life of the negroes to attract some attention.

Birmingham and New Orleans have become so frightened by the negro migrations of late that civic bodies, state officials and labor commissioners are taking extensive measures to bring them to an end. The colored people are being urged to stick to their homes in the South, and are assured that they are being lured to northern cities only to find themselves in worse conditions.

APR 23 1927

Negroes In Industrial Centers Of South Are Repeating Blunder

It seems that Negro workers in the larger industrial centers of the South, notably Birmingham, New Orleans and Memphis, are repeating the blunder they made several years ago of leaving good jobs in the South to seek what they think will be better ones in Northern cities.

Naturally the cities that are being deprived of Negro workers by the exodus are becoming exercised. In all industrial centers in the South negro labor is needed and is depended upon for certain classes of work and when any considerable shortage of such labor occurs, industry necessarily slows down.

The New York World one day this week published a news dispatch from Birmingham telling how the migration of Negro workers is beginning to be felt in Southern industrial centers. The dispatch said:

"Two of the largest industrial cities of the south—Birmingham and New Orleans—have begun to feel the business handicap that has resulted from the exodus of Negroes to Chicago to such an extent that very unusual measures have been adopted to halt the migration.

"In Birmingham, which but this year has added 430 new business enterprises to its fast growing industrial life, the Chamber of Commerce, not only has sent out personal warning to Negroes and to employers, but has enlisted the aid of all Negro preachers and school teachers in an effort to correct the false impression that exists here about the opportunity that awaits the Negro in Chicago, and has a crew of paid agents to that end.

"In New Orleans, Frank E. Wood, Commissioner of Labor for Louisiana, has directed the attention of contractors to the disaster that confronts the building trades, which are made up almost exclusively of Negroes, if an exodus of Negroes is not swiftly stopped. E. J. Bayliss, director of the industrial relations division of the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, is urging the Negro not to forsake his home and work in Louisiana, and is pointing out the civic necessity of the responsible Negro worker in the development of the industries of New Orleans."

The Birmingham Age Herald, under the heading "The Negro Exodus," has printed an editorial of which the following is an excerpt: "The migration of Negroes to Chicago warrants measures of preventive activity, not only because Birmingham's industrial prosperity requires Negro labor in the bulk, but because of the responsibility of the city toward its Negro population, which is not well equipped to understand that wild tales of fabulous wages and social preferment are not always true, and that conditions

in Chicago, despite propaganda to the contrary, are not adapted to Southern Negro's needs. Leaders of the race and their employers will do well to caution Negro labor to think twice before moving.

"Unless Birmingham escapes further migration the city will suffer a serious labor handicap and its departing Negroes be confronted with starvation on their arrival in the North."

The migration of Negroes this year does not appear to include a great many of those in smaller towns or in rural communities. Several years ago many Negroes abandoned their work and homes in the rural districts in several Southern states to move to the North, Chicago getting great numbers of them. Those Negroes learned too late that the promises held out to them were false. Many of them have been able after much difficulty to get back into the South, and they doubtless are cured. They could tell the Negroes that now are leaving the South how grave a mistake they are making.

Negroes who leave the South expecting to better their condition in Northern cities always find only disappointment.

THE RURAL EXODUS

Growing apprehension over the heavy movement of population from the farm to the city is being shown in Washington.

Recent announcement by the Department of Agriculture that the farm population decreased 649,000 persons last year, the greatest decrease since 1920, has jarred a good many people out of their complacency and forced them to admit that there is something radically wrong with the conditions surrounding agriculture and that it is high time to seek to remedy these conditions.

While there may be honest differences of opinion as to the remedies, and it will take time to work these remedies out, it is at least a distinct mark of progress that responsible officials and public men are showing an increasing disposition not to blink at the facts.

What has occurred is that since 1920 the farm population of this country has suffered a net loss of about 3,000,000. And, as the figures just announced show, the rural exodus is not being checked but is becoming more pronounced.

The tendency of the farm population to drift to the city and the nation to become industrialized is not fully appreciated without going back for about fifty years. In 1880, roughly speaking, 71 percent of the population was rural. In 1890, the rural population was about 65 percent. By 1900 it had gone down to 60 percent and by 1910 to 54 percent.

Even this steady decline did not command the notice of more than a few keen observers and students. By 1920, it was found that only 48 percent of the population was rural. (Actually only one-fourth of the people of the United States live on farms.)

It is, of course, recognized that sooner or later this drift of population will stop. It will reach the point where the movement of people back to the farm and rural districts will equal the movement away from the rural districts. Perhaps we shall, before many years, see a greater movement of population back to the country than away from it. But that time is not yet at hand.

What sort of people are leaving the farms and going to the cities? That is something not yet answered satisfactorily. It is a question in which the economists are keenly concerned. Is the cream of the agricultural population in many communities abandoning the field of agriculture? If it is, then is movement of population becomes extremely serious. If the poor or mediocre farmers are going to the city, that is one thing. If the best farmers are going, that is quite another thing.

"A good farmer," said a prominent official recently is not made in a day. The loss of a good farmer from a community is not easy to replace. To develop a good farmer out of a poor one is a slow process, if not an impossible one."

This official made the point that if the best farmers of America are drifting from the farm then this country stands face to face with a grave problem of threatened agricultural decay. England has had this problem on her hands for generations and has failed to deal with it.—Extracts from a recent A. C. L. Agricultural News Article.

Quitman, Ga., Free Press

Negroes Return From Florida

During the past few days several large trucks, loaded to the running boards with negroes, have passed through Quitman headed to Alabama, and Georgia points. The negroes are returning from Florida to work again in the fields of the agricultural section.

It is stated on authority that labor conditions on the farms in Southwest

Georgia are very much better than in the past years and that the negroes are coming back to their old homes.

SOUTHERN STATES LOSING NEGROES; FIGHT MIGRATION

A new negro migration to the north is reported underway, and authorities of some of the Southern states, especially Louisiana and Alabama, are debating a number of proposals to combat it.

One of these would be the enactment of legislation, similar to Georgia's, which makes it unlawful for any labor agent to recruit negro workers for any city outside the state. Agents from Northern cities are particularly active now, it is said.

Another proposal would be to make condition more attractive for the negro, so he would not be lured away so easily by promises of better jobs and more money in the North. Best authorities in the South admit living conditions for the negro are anything but desirable.

The only way, it is pointed out, for the Southern cities to keep their negro workers is to build better schools, better houses and better streets in the negro sections, and higher wages and more money for recreational purposes and public schools.

Fort Point, Cal., Suburban Reporter

APR 23 1927

NEGRO EXODUS CONFINED TO BUSINESS CENTERS

Reports received here state that negro workers in the larger industrial centers of the South, notably Birmingham, New Orleans and Memphis, are repeating the blunder they made several years ago of leaving good jobs in the South to seek what they think will be better ones in Northern cities.

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They could tell the negroes that now are leaving the South how grave a mistake they are making, railway officials here assert.

Labor - 1927

Migration Movement
N. Y. WORLD

JAN 13 1927

Woman College President Tells of Negro Migration

Mrs. Bethune Talks on Big
Problem of South Before
Women's City Club

Adjustment to new social conditions by the 1,000,000 Negroes who have migrated from the South to the North since 1915 was appraised yesterday by Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, founder and President of Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona, Fla., as one of the most difficult tasks successfully accomplished by any race at any time.

She spoke to about fifty persons at the Women's City Club yesterday noon. The meeting was arranged by the Committee on Correction. Mrs. Martha P. Falconer presided.

"The difficulty of the readjustment can be judged by comparing the rural environment of Southern Negroes with environment in the North," she said. "In the North they live in segregated districts, where they are jammed together in a way they have never known before. The boundaries of these districts move slowly. It means high rents, lack of sanitation and breaking down of family life.

"Besides that, when a Negro leaves the South he leaves behind most of the skill he acquired there. He must take a different kind of a job. There is no cotton to pick in the North."

The heira from the South was described as the natural bursting of a dam that could not hold the restlessness which grew for thirty years as opportunities for progress and rounded development were denied the Negro. She said the labor union was partly responsible by dignifying manual labor and filling labor's ranks with white men who formerly scorned such work

and allowed it to be done by Negroes.

Immigration curtailment further aided the movement by making room for Negro labor in Northern factories, she said. The World War had a similar influence by draining white men from factories and giving Negroes a chance to work upward.

"But with all this movement, the bulk of the Negro population is still in the South. I have given the story of 1,000,000 of them as I told of their coming into this country. The remaining 8,000,000 in the South must be tended at their source—on the soil which is theirs

and which they love. It is against this problem that the educational and social program of the Bethune-Cookman School and other educational institutions of the South are directed. It is a staggering



Mrs. MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
BY WORLD STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
YESTERDAY

CLARION-LEDGER
JACKSON, MISS.

FEB 8 1927
Negroes Returning

From Northern States

NATCHEZ, Feb. 7—The fertile lands of Adams county and the possibilities of Natchez are again attracting large numbers of negroes who in past years have left this section for more northern states.

Major R. L. Montgomery, agent for the Y. and M. V. railroad running into this city yesterday stated that practically every train that comes into the city from the northern part of the state on connects with trains from more northern states brings large groups of negroes.

He also stated that he believed that labor would be more plentiful this year. The low cotton price has been the cause of large numbers of negroes leaving the delta county and returning here he further stated and every indication points to a mos

successful year in so far as labor is concerned for the farmers and planters of Adams county.

SOUTH MAKING FUTILE EFFORT TO STEM GREATEST MIGRATION

The following article is one of the many such stories sent out of the South immediately preceding and following the election of William Hale Thompson as mayor of Chicago. It shows the great concern with which white people of the South are viewing what is destined to be the greatest exodus in its history. At first the South was prone to scoff at the great waves of migration that have been sweeping that section of the United States for the past few years, declaring that industrial conditions would not be affected.

The attempt in this case is to make it appear that the election in Chicago is responsible for the exodus and to conceal the true motives back of the unrest now affecting the entire South. The article, published in a Chicago daily, follows:

"Two of the largest industrial cities of the South—Birmingham and New Orleans—have begun to feel the business handicap that has resulted from the exodus of Negroes to Chicago to such an extent that very unusual measures have been adopted to halt the migration.

"In Birmingham, which but this year has added 430 new business enterprises to its fast growing industrial life, the chamber of commerce not only has sent out personal warnings to Negroes and to employers, but has enlisted the aid of all Negro preachers and school teachers in an effort to correct the false impression that exists here about the opportunity that awaits Negroes in Chicago and has a crew of paid agents to that end.

"In New Orleans, Frank E. Wood, commissioner of labor for Louisiana, has directed the attention of contractors to the disaster that confronts the building trades, which are made up almost exclusively of Negroes, if an exodus of Negroes is not swiftly stopped. B. J. Bayless, director of the New Orleans chamber of commerce, is urging the Negro not to forsake his home and work in Louisiana, and is pointing out the civic necessity of the responsible Negro worker in the development of the industries of New Orleans.

Newspaper Deplores Situation

"The Birmingham Age Herald, under the heading, 'The Negro Exodus,' this week printed an editorial of which the following is an excerpt: 'The migration of Negroes to Chicago warrants measures of preventive activity, not only because Birmingham's industrial prosperity requires Negro labor in the bulk, but because of the responsibility of the city toward its Negro population, which is not well equipped to understand that wild tales of fabulous wages and social preferment are not always true,

biggest planters in the delta section. It has begun to be a common thing to find that Negro families have decamped over night from plantations, without warning or word of any kind.

"Concerning the type of Negro who has been first to be deluded into a belief of the glories that await him in Chicago, the Arkansas Methodist published at Little Rock, and a power among both the white and black people of that state, says as it warns against the possibility of race strife:

"Many of these Negroes are industrious and honest, but often in their environment they fall into the hands of unscrupulous politicians and exploiters who use them for selfish purposes, and play them off in such a way as to excite animosity among the white laborers. Negroes without employment fall an easy prey to evil influences and suggestions, and are easily led to the commission of crimes that excite angry passions."

Warns His Race

"Among the Negroes of Memphis the movement North already has assumed noticeable proportions, so much so that Alonzo Locke, Negro vice president of the Solvent Savings bank, has deemed it advisable to issue a warning to his race in Tennessee. 'Many of those who have left Memphis for Chicago recently have found it necessary to return in order to escape either jail or starvation. The Memphis Negro is needed right here in Memphis. The industrial life of the city is growing rapidly and there is great need for the intelligent Negro workman right here in his home town wherein his privileges are real and his relations with the whites are sincere.'

Go Ahead With Plans

The attempt by Birmingham and other southern centers to make it appear that they are interested in the welfare of the race is pointed out as evidence of the seriousness of the situation. But, judging from the preparations now being made to desert the South for better conditions farther North, are going ahead without interruption, showing what little effect these articles are having upon people who have tolerated conditions as long as they can.

"We are going North," declared one prominent tenant farmer near Little Rock, "even if we do come back later. It can certainly do us no harm to find out for ourselves just what is in store for us, and we know that we can do no worse than we are doing now. Again, we know that the experience of living in the North will be of greatest value to any of us who do return here. We will be better informed, and better able to cope with the situation in the South. Our white 'friends' down here want us only for our labor, and they are not even willing to treat us decently to get that."

One resident of Memphis fired a few questions at Alonzo Locke, vice president of the Solvent Savings bank, who took it upon himself to advise our people in and around Memphis to remain there. If Mr. Locke has lived in Memphis any length of time, he remembers the incident of Eli Pierson, whose head was cut off by a group of white 'friends' and carried on a pole through the streets of the town as a

Many Are Leaving Farms

"A survey of the South, including Arkansas, Tennessee, Louisiana and Alabama, indicates that at least 3,500 Negro families have gone to the North in the last few weeks. Many of them are of the 'floating' Negro population, and so far, most of them have gone from agricultural districts. That is particularly true of Louisiana and Tennessee, where the planting season has been so delayed by excessive rainfall, and where the effect of low prices for cotton has been discouraging to the Negro 'share cropper.'

"Within the last few days, according to William Satterfield, one of the

warning to others not to make too determined an effort to get justice. This, it was declared, could never happen in Chicago, or any other point North, or if it did there would be many poles bearing other heads—not dark ones either.

The exodus will continue, despite all efforts of southern whites to stem it. One of the observations made by those whose faces are pointed North is that "a rolling stone may not gather any moss, but it certainly gets well polished," and a polished stone is just about as essential today as a mossy one.

OCALA FLA.

APR 13 1927

SOUTHERN DARKIES BEING LURED NORTH BY FALSE PROMISES

NEGROES IN CHICAGO FIND THEMSELVES UNABLE TO RE- TURN HOME FOR LACK OF FUNDS

Atlanta, April 13.—Reports received here state that many negroes are again being induced to go from Southern cities to Chicago under promise of high wages and social equality, two things they find later, in cases from Georgia, do not exist for negroes in Chicago. Also it is said there are now about 25,000 Southern negroes out of work in Chicago, and that many of them are in want.

Just what is back of the attempt to lure the negroes from the South to Northern centers is not very clear, according to Georgia agricultural leaders. Whatever it is, it was asserted here, the negroes are the ultimate victims, for they invariably find the promises false and learn too late that they have been deceived. Most of those who are induced to go to the north are financially unable to get back to their Southern homes again.

"The Southern negro who goes to Chicago, or any other Northern city expecting to find conditions better than in Southern cities or communities invariably meets with disappointment" said a local railway official. "The several thousands of negroes who were deceived into going to the

North several years ago furnished an object lesson that should have an influence now upon the movements of negroes away from the South. Some of those who left their work and their homes in the South to seek fancy wages and social equality are still in the North, with no wages at all and nothing that even remotely sembles social equality. They are too poor to get back where they belong, in the South."

Officials of the Georgia Department of Agriculture, in discussing the situation, points to the fact that "the negro belongs in the South". They show that he does better in the South than anywhere else, but he does not have social equality in the South and does not expect it.

"In the North he is among people who do not understand him, who do not care whether he has food or not, who would not under any circumstances extend social equality, and who pay fancy wages only when they cannot get along without paying them", said a leading Georgia farmer who was at the state Capitol. "The untrained negro worker, of course, cannot command more than the pay of an untrained worker, either in the North or the South, and to promise him The best thing the Southern negro can more merely is to try to deceive him. do is to stay in the South."

NEGROES RETURNING IN LARGE NUMBERS

QUITMAN, March 22.—During the past few days several large trucks, loaded to the running boards with negroes, have passed through Quitman headed for Alabama and Georgia points. The negroes are returning from Florida to work again in the fields of the agricultural section.

It is stated on authority that labor conditions in Southwest Georgia are very much better than in the past years and that the negroes are returning to their homes.

AGE-HERALD
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

MAR 30 1927

Chicago Writer Sounds Warning To Negro Labor

O'Rear Says North May Yet Call Upon South For Solution Of Perplexing Problem

Inter-relation of civic development among the various cities in the United States is becoming more and more apparent, according to Leslie O'Rear, a writer of Chicago, who is in Birmingham while making a survey of the industrial and sociological conditions of the south. Even the results of a political campaign in Chicago may have a direct bearing upon the prosperity of Birmingham, he says, in outlining the way in which the welfare of each community is made the warp and woof of a prosperous nation.

"Just at this time," he explained, "in Chicago there is a political campaign in progress which quite possibly may have the effect of luring great numbers of your negro workmen away from the industries here. It so happens that in Chicago the negro vote is virtually the balance of power and one of the contestants in the mayoralty campaign has, wisely or not, succeeded in arousing the negroes to an unprecedented fever of excitement which has made the election one of a race issue rather than economic principle.

"Indeed, with its 230,000 negro population, Chicago is figuratively sleeping on dynamite. Recent manipulation of the police department by scheming politicians resulted in an unheralded and violent raid on the black belt of that city, during which 1,000 negroes were arrested in one night, without warrant or justification, since only two of them were held by the police magistrate who had jurisdiction over the district. That one act, alone, unified the negroes in their support of the candidate who, as mayor previously, had made many political appointments from among the negroes, and who was quick to appear as their champion in this new crisis.

Reports Exaggerated

"Promises of jobs were freely made. Negro newspapers heralded the fact that Chicago, which always had been considered a haven for negroes, would become a heaven instead. Reports went out to the negroes in the south that greater privileges than ever were to be had by Chicago negroes.

"The effect instantly was felt. Despite the fact that there are now more than 25,000 unemployed negroes in Chicago, hundreds began to migrate. From St. Louis, Little Rock, Memphis they came—adding to the tenseness of the situation—and in such numbers as to alarm, very seriously, official bodies in

the territories from which they had come.

"Tennessee is four weeks behind with its planting. Labor conditions there are but 80 per cent of normal. In view of the sudden exodus of negroes

from Tennessee, the chamber of commerce deemed it expedient to publish a warning to the planters in which the true situation in Chicago was explained and in which the planters were urged to use their influence upon the negroes to keep them at home.

"In Arkansas, the commissioner of agriculture has issued a similar bulletin, and all through the south, where I have been within the last two or three weeks, I have found a similar situation. So far as Birmingham is concerned, I have not yet learned just what the condition is here, but I do know that there is no other city in the south which is so dependent upon industry for its greatest achievements as is Birmingham. Industry, in turn, absolutely dependent upon labor, despite the giant strides that have been made in mechanical processes. Your labor, or the greatest part of it, is negro labor.

Labor Shortage Looms

"Unless something is done to correct the false impression that is getting out to your negroes about the joys of social and economic prestige for them in Chicago—which really is but a wild bit of political propaganda—you are going to have to face the probability of acute labor shortage. It is certain that another exodus of negroes to the north has started. How far it will go, to what proportions it will attain, one cannot even guess. The defeat of the negro champion in the election would have a salutary effect, but at this moment the odds are in his favor.

"The white people of Chicago are not race conscious. They refuse to get excited over the storm that is brewing, and the only thing that can save them from what appears to be the certainty of a race riot, is the polling of a heavy white vote next Tuesday against the negro, forgetful of party lines."

Mr. O'Rear has been making a study of the negro for many years and he is one northerner, at least, who declares that the negro question is growing more and more acute in the north—that the element of sympathetic understanding, so valuable in the south, is entirely lacking in the north, and that, after all, "we may yet have to come to you people of the south to teach us, or show us, the way out of our difficulty."

MICHIGAN IS FERTILE STATE FOR MIGRANTS

State Bureau Urges More Truck Farms

Lansing, Mich.—In urging migrants from the South to settle in the agricultural districts rather than in the highly industrialized centers of Michigan, William Jennifer, director of the bureau of Negro welfare of the state, said that the Race farm population was distributed throughout 61 counties in the state. Five of these counties, Cass, Michigan, Isabelle, Mecosta and Van Buren, contain the largest number of farmers from the South. In the other 56 counties the farm population of our group is comparatively small. In Cass county, where the largest farm population is found, is seen a worthy and encouraging example of what our people can do in the farm life of the state.

USE BUSINESSLIKE FARM MANAGEMENT

In this section may be seen all the advantages of the businesslike farm management and the joys of farm life. Throughout this county farmers whose holdings adjoin the land of white farmers are extracting from the soil a comfortable living and the assurance of a better and brighter future for themselves and their children. There may be seen the large well kept homes and farm buildings, the fields of waving grain and golden tasseled corn, the herds of placid, well fed cattle. There may be found the farmer whose character, general prosperity and activity in community affairs have brought to his door the honor of a county office and thus a voice in local government.

There also will be found the Race veterinary who numbers among his patrons farmers of both races. The principal products of this section are wheat, oats, rye, corn and potatoes, while stock raising also provides an important item in the revenues to the farmers of that county. The bureau of Negro welfare, with its contact, can give, and will be glad to give, helpful advice to the migrant worker wishing to leave the city and to seek the more stable and healthful advantages of farm life by acquiring farm homes or by securing farm employment.

Labor - 1927

Migration Movement.

SELF-INTEREST RULED IT

[Boston Post]

That the Colored man is getting better treatment in the South than he has ever enjoyed is the general verdict of observers, both resident and visiting. There must be something in it.

Some time ago when an exodus of the Americans of African descent to the North seemed about to reach large proportions, the Post ventured the opinion that it would be checked because the planters and other employers of the South, seeing the danger of losing a very valuable and not very costly type of labor, would use every effort to placate the Colored folk and thus prevent a stampede northward. That is just about what has happened.

Speaking in Boston on Sunday evening, Rev. William N. DeBerry, a man who has studied the matter carefully, said: "The employers of the South saw that they were losing many of their help, and as a consequence were obliged to treat the Colored man a little more decently, with the result that there was a marked improvement in labor and working conditions."

Perhaps the growth of a more kindly spirit may have had something to do with this change. Self-interest, however, ruled in the main, as it so often does sociologically. Meaning the Colored man gets the benefit.

Journal of Commerce
CHICAGO, ILL.

JAN 19 1927

THE MIGRATING NEGRO

Since 1915, says a Florida college president, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, American Negroes have accomplished successfully one of the most difficult tasks ever undertaken by a race at any time. This is the migration of 1,000,000 Negroes from the south to the north.

In this huge exodus from the land of cotton this vast number, for the most part, abandoned their skill born on the cotton fields for entirely different vocations—for work in factories, at building enterprises and in other useful employments such as are found in cities. The war gave them their chance, with the short labor supply in the north, that drained white men from many industries.

The change from the open fields of the cotton belt to the congestion of city districts, where family life was largely broken and cramped quarters only available, was a perilous adventure, but it was safely put over with little friction. It is suggestive that the Negroes found physical freedom as an incident of one great war, and opportunity in the north as a direct result of war conditions in another great conflict.

Another thing has helped in this remarkable movement, and this is the sharp restriction of immigration. It has created a big demand for unskilled labor all over the north which has been met largely by the Negroes. The scarcer common labor is, the better it is treated. As a million deserted the south, we are told that the eight millions left there came into easier conditions. In the north there is every reason to expect the newcomers to improve in service.

AGE-HERALD BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

MAR 30 1927

THE NEGRO EXODUS

A statement recently issued by the city commission at Mobile says:

This commission's attention has been called to the fact that many negroes are leaving the South, going to Chicago with a promise of social favor and rich employment. We are not in the slightest degree inclined to become involved in the political situation of the metropolis of the West; however, we do feel an interest in all economic conditions affecting the welfare of this country and believe that there is a better understanding between the negro and the white man of the South than in any other section, we are sufficiently interested to request that they seriously consider a movement of this character before taking action, especially in view of the fact that unemployment is so widespread in the city of Chicago. We are informed that there are now more than 25,000 negroes out of employment in that city.

Obviously the Mobile commissioners feel that they are justified in combatting propaganda issuing from Chicago, in effect that that city is a haven for negroes, else they would not make a statement which might easily be construed as interference in another community's affairs. That there may well be provocation for their action is to be found in the exodus, not only from Mobile, but from Little Rock, Memphis and other cities with large negro population, reported in press dispatches. Whether Birmingham has escaped or not is not clearly known. But that it might not escape and in consequence suffer a labor handicap and its departing negroes be confronted with starvation conditions on arrival, is altogether possible.

The situation appears to warrant some measure of preventive activity, not alone because Birmingham's industrial prosperity requires negro labor in the bulk, but because of the responsibility of the city toward its negro population which is not well equipped to understand that wild tales of fabulous wages and social preferment are not always true, and that conditions in Chicago, despite propaganda to the contrary, are not adapted to the southern negro's needs. Leaders of the race and employers will do well to caution negro labor to think twice before moving.

NORTHWARD MIGRATION OF NEGROES CRIPPLES SOUTH

Outgoing Trains Watched

Birmingham, Ala., April 4.—The trains are being watched by agents in the employ of Birmingham chamber of commerce. They are making every attempt to dissuade the Negroes from leaving larger southern cities. Two of the largest of these, New Orleans, La., and Birmingham, report serious handicaps from this exodus. Birmingham has increased its business enterprises by nearly 450 during the past year, and therefore needs a proportionate increase in laborers. Not only have the business men and the chamber of commerce enlisted the aid of the Negro preachers and teachers in an effort to prevent more colored people from migrating to the north, but they have sent out a warning to them advising that the north is by no means an Eden where money is obtained without effort. A crew of paid agents are working diligently to prevent a northward movement of the Negroes.

Urge Negroes to Stay South

Commissioner of Labor for Louisiana, Frank E. Wood, New Orleans, has directed the attention of the contractors to the disaster that confronts the building trades, which are made up almost exclusively of colored people, unless the exodus is stopped immediately. J. Bayliss, director of the industrial relations division of the New Orleans chamber of commerce, is urging the Negro to stay in the south and develop industry there. The Birmingham Age Herald says editorially:

"The migration of Negroes to Chicago warrants measures of preventive activity, not only because Birmingham's industrial prosperity requires Negro labor in bulk, but because of the responsibility of the city toward its Negro population, which is not well equipped to understand that wild tales of fabulous wages and social preferment are not always true, and that conditions in Chicago, despite propaganda to the contrary, are not adapted to southern Negro's needs. Leaders of the race and their employers will do well to caution Negro labor to think twice before moving."

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The state legislature has but recently passed a law making it a crime for any person to induce Alabama Negroes to leave the state through promises of economic and social grandeur, such as now are being noised about. Employers are asked to keep a vigilant watch over their Negroes and the influences that they have come in contact with while this exodus threatens.

Nearly 4,000 Negro families have left for parts north, during the past few weeks, according to a recent survey made of Arkansas, Tennessee, Louisiana and Alabama. Low prices for cotton have been blamed for some of the migration.

Colored families often leave without warning, according to William Satterfield, one of the big planters in the delta section. Many have left overnight during the past few days. A Methodist church organ warns of the possibility of race strife. Many of these Negroes are industrious and honest, but often in their environment they fall into the hands of unscrupulous politicians and exploiters who use them for selfish purposes, and play them off in such a way as to excite animosity among the white laborers. Negroes without employment fall an easy prey to evil influences and suggestions, and are easily led to the commission of crimes that excite angry passions."

Banker Issues Warning

The northward movement of colored labor has alarmed Memphis to the extent that Alonzo Locke, colored banker, of that city issues the following warning:

"Many of those who have left

Memphis for Chicago recently have found it necessary to return in order to escape either jail or starvation. The Memphis Negro is needed right here in Memphis. The industrial life of the city is growing rapidly and there is great need for the intelligent Negro workman right here in his home town where in his privileges are real and his relations with the whites are cere."

NORTHWARD MIGRATION OF NEGROES CRIPPLES SOUTH

Birmingham, Ala., April 4.—The exodus of Negroes from various sections of the south to Chicago and other industrial centers of the north has crippled many of the larger southern cities. Two of the largest of these, New Orleans, La., and Birmingham, report serious handicaps from this exodus. Birmingham has increased its business enterprises by nearly 450 during the past year, and therefore needs a proportionate increase in laborers. Not only have the business men and the chamber of commerce enlisted the aid of the Negro preachers and teachers in an effort to prevent more colored people from migrating to the north, but they have sent out a warning to them advising that the north is by no means an Eden where money is obtained without effort. A crew of paid agents are working diligently to prevent a northward movement of the Negroes.

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"Unless Birmingham escapes further migration the city will suffer a serious labor handicap, and its departing Negroes be confronted with starvation on their arrival in the north."

Outgoing Trains Watched

In Birmingham all outgoing trains are being watched by agents in the employ of Birmingham chamber of commerce. They are making every attempt to dissuade the Negroes from leaving.

O. L. Bunn, general secretary of the organization, has issued the following statement: "It would be tragic for our Negroes to desert us. They are vitally necessary to the successful growth of Birmingham as a manufacturing center. It is through them, largely, that we are able to compete so successfully against some of the eastern cities, and for base lies in the form of political propaganda to rob us of them would be a disaster."

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**VICTORY LIFE
VICTORIOUS IN
\$25,000 SUIT**

William Ballard, a former employee of the Victory Life Insurance Company, who came to this city from the South, and who was inexperienced in salesmanship, filed suit against the Victory Life Insurance Company for the sum of \$25,000 for alleged breach of contract. Ballard stated that he had worked for the Victory Life Insurance Company and they had failed to pay him his due commission, but according to evidence brought out in the trial last Tuesday before Judge Gayor of the Superior Court, the Victory Life did not owe him anything.

Attorney Richard Hill, Jr., one of the city's most prominent attorneys, represented the Victory Life Insurance Company. Attorney

Hill combatted all evidence that Ballard could produce to substantiate his claim of indebtedness. The Victory Life contract was given him for so much money until he could carry himself with a large enough debit, but this contract, under the insurance laws of Illinois is limited—so that a man must make good or forfeit the contract after the time of limitation.

Judge Gayor, in high terms to reporters, praised Attorney Hill for his efficiency and dismissed the suit.

Ballard filed suit May 14, 1925, seven days after he had left the employ of the insurance company.

NEW YORK GRAPHIC

NEGRESS, A COLLEGE PRESIDENT, ADDRESSES WOMEN'S CITY CLUB

Adjustment to new social conditions by the 1,000,000 negroes who have migrated from the South to the North since 1915 was appraised yesterday by Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, herself of that race and founder and president of Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona, Fla., as one of the most difficult tasks successfully accomplished by any race at any time.

She spoke to about fifty persons at the Women's City Club yesterday noon. The meeting was arranged by the Committee on Correction. Mrs. Martha P. Falconer presided.

"The difficulty of the readjustment can be judged by comparing the rural environment of Southern negroes with environment in the North," she said. "In the North they live in segregated districts, where they are jammed together in a way they have never known before. The boundaries of these districts move slowly. It means high rents, lack of sanitation and breaking down of family life."

GLOBE-DEMOCRAT ST. LOUIS, MO. JUN 15 1927

THOUSANDS OF NEGROES DUE HERE, SEEKING WORK

Several thousand Negroes are expected here soon from Southern refugee camps, in search of work. John Clark, executive secretary of the Urban League, a negro social organization, said yesterday. Some already have arrived, but it is believed that in the next few weeks the number will be tripled. The influx of Southern Negroes, unaccustomed to Northern temperatures, will cause disease among them, it is feared. There are only two negro hospitals in St. Louis, but the city proposes to build a new one in place of an old institution.

NEGROES AGAIN MIGRATING TO NORTH

Authorities Plan Moves to Keep Black Man in the South.

Atlanta, June 18.—A new negro migration to the north is reported underway, and authorities of some of the Southern States, especially Louisiana and Alabama, are debating a number of proposals to combat it.

One of these would be the enactment of legislation, similar to Georgia's, which makes it unlawful for any labor agent to recruit negro workers for any city outside the State. Agents from Northern cities are particularly active now, it is said.

Another proposal would be to make conditions more attractive for

the negro, so he would not be lured away so easily by promises of better jobs and more money in the North. Best authorities in the South admit living conditions for the negro are anything but desirable.

The only way, it is pointed out, for the Southern cities to keep their negro workers is to build better schools, better houses and better streets in the negro sections, and higher wages and more money for recreational purposes and public parks.

LOSING PAPULATION

The cities of Birmingham and New Orleans are said to be losing negro population steadily, and vigorous campaigns have been launched in both localities to check the exodus. The labor commissioner of Louisiana is authority for the statement that the building trades in New Orleans will face a "crisis" if the ranks of negro workers in the employ of contracting firms are further depleted.

The director of Industrial Relations of the Chamber of Commerce in New Orleans has issued an appeal to the negroes to remain where they are, pointing out the south is the home of the negro and that he is always "assured of the best treatment here."

The negro labor situation is reported more acute in Birmingham, and the Chamber of Commerce there has appointed agents to watch all outgoing trains in an effort to dissuade the negroes from leaving the city.

TAKE LEGAL STEPS

The first legal step to control the situation was taken in Alabama where the legislature has enacted a statute prohibiting any person from inducing workmen to leave the State "through grandiose promises of economic and social betterment." Georgia has had such a law for several years and at least a dozen have been convicted of the offense and sent to the State prison.

Social workers however feel that any prohibitive legislation will defeat its own purpose. They feel that laws designed to prevent negro workmen from exercising free choice is sure to build up a structure of dissatisfaction that will tend to hasten rather than retard the exodus to the north. They declare that fairness requires that the negro be allowed the same opportunity as white persons to learn of economic advantages of other parts of the country.

Labor - 1927

Migration Movement,

SOUTH NOW TRYING TO STOP MIGRATION BY LEGISLATION

Atlanta, Ga., June 24.—A migration to the North is reported under way and authorities of some of the southern states, especially Louisiana and Alabama, are debating a number of proposals to combat it. One of these would be the enactment of legislation similar to Georgia's, which makes it unlawful for workers to leave the state for outside employment.

Another proposal would be to make conditions more attractive for our group, so he would not be lured away so easily by promises of better jobs and more money in the North.

Best authorities in the South admit living conditions for our group are anything but desirable.

The only way, it is pointed out, for the southern cities to keep their workers of our group is to build better schools, better houses and better streets in the sections for our group, and higher wages and more money for recreational purposes and public parks.

Losing Population

The cities of Birmingham and New Orleans are said to be losing race population steadily, and vigorous campaigns have been launched in both localities to check the exodus. The labor commissioner of Louisiana is authority for the statement that the building trades in New Orleans will face a crisis if the ranks of workers of our group in the employ of contracting firms are further depleted.

The first legal step to control the situation was taken in Alabama, where the legislature has enacted a statute prohibiting any person from inducing workmen to leave the state "through grandiose promises of economic and social betterment." Georgia has had such a law for several years and at least a dozen have been convicted of the offense and sent to the state prison.

NEWS

NEGRO MIGRATION FROM THE SOUTH

Following is a survey respecting Negro migration from the South that has been made by Arthur Rapier, of Atlanta:

During the last five years South Carolina has lost 18,429 Negro farmers, the loss amounting to 16 per cent of that class for the period.

Georgia lost 6,110 colored farmers, or 35.4 per cent.

Mississippi, 11,077, or 6.9 per cent.

Alabama, 9,882, or 10.4 per cent.

Arkansas, 8,999, or 12.4 per cent.

Tennessee, 3,535, or 9.2 per cent.

Louisiana, 942, or 7.2 per cent.

During the five-year period in question the entire South lost 91,459 Negro farmers, or practically 10 per cent of the total.

Among these were 24,152 owners and managers, or 11 per cent of that group.

On the other hand there has been a large migration of white farmers from the North to the South.

"With the negro migration, what is to become of the cotton crop?" asks the jaundiced Birmingham News. The answer is, the supply is greater than the demand, and production larger than it was five years ago.

Negroes Start New Migration

Southern States Again Losing Them; Laws Sought to Combat Move

Atlanta.—A negro migration to the North is reported under way, and authorities of some of the Southern states, especially Louisiana and Alabama, are debating a number of proposals to combat it. One of these would be the en-

actment of legislation, similar to Georgia's, which makes it unlawful for any labor agent to recruit negro workers for any city outside the State. Agents from Northern cities are particularly active now, it is said.

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Take Legal Steps

The first legal step to control the situation was taken in Alabama, where the Legislature has enacted a statute prohibiting any person from inducing workmen to leave the State "through grandiose promises of economic and social betterment." Georgia has had such a law for several years and at least a dozen have been convicted of the offense and sent to the State Prison.

RECORD

av Migration of laborers From Mississippi Area

The Mississippi flood disaster is affecting the California employment situation, is the opinion of Frank W. Waterman, deputy labor commissioner and manager of the local state free employment bureau, who returned to Stockton Friday from a trip to Southern California.

An influx of Negro labor into Los Angeles and an expected stream of tricken whites from the flooded districts are complicating the em-

ployment situation. With plenty of labor on hand and real estate slow in the south, the employment situation is very quiet.

The condition is the same throughout the state, says Leo Schwab, placement clerk at the Stockton agency, who says that lumber companies are not employing as many men as usual. As a result, migratory laborers in California are not leaving the state. Cold spring weather has delayed the opening of many lines of work in the state, with subsequent idleness among the migratory and seasonal worker.

The report of June, compiled by Schwab, shows 459 men and twenty-seven women played by the office, but a comparison with June of last year shows a decline of 25 per cent.

NEGRO MOVEMENT NORTH IS ASSAILED

Philadelphia, November 5.—(P)—Unless the influx of negroes from the south and of the undesirable from the "belts of least education in Europe" is checked, large American cities "will be unfit to live in" in the next 10 years, in the opinion of Judge Edwin O. Lewis, of the Philadelphia common pleas court. He predicts that barriers will be erected by the leading cities to prevent the wholesale entry of such persons.

Judge Lewis made these statements yesterday in addressing the October grand jury. They were severely criticized and disputed by a number of prominent negroes of this city. "It is amazing," said Judge Lewis, "to appreciate the great number of members of the colored race who are charged with crime. Apparently 70 to 80 per cent of persons held in prison charged with crime are colored persons. I believe that this is due to the indiscriminate migration from the rural sections to the large cities.

"I believe that large cities should have a right to say who shall enter their confines, otherwise Philadelphia and other large cities within the next 10 years will not be fit to live in. Some sections of them are not fit to live in now."

MIGRATION OF ALABAMA NEGRO FARMERS

Arthur Raper, field secretary of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, with headquarters in Atlanta, has just made an instructive study of the subject of "negro migration," in which he gives special attention to the migrations of colored people from the farms of Alabama. He studied the question through the United States census figures.

It is seen that in the fifteen years ending with 1925, Alabama lost more than one-fifth of its negro farmers. In 1910 there were in the State 110,443 colored

farmers, 95,203 in 1920, and 85,321 in 1925, showing a loss for the whole period of 25,122 or 22.7 per cent. The number of negro tenants fell from 93,309 to 70,539, or 24.4 per cent; the number of owners and managers from 15,194 to 14,782, or 13.1 per cent. Assuming that most of the departing farmers were heads of families, it is estimated that there was an aggregate decrease of more than 100,000 in colored farm population in the State.

During the same period the number of white farmers increased rapidly from 127,188 in 1910 to 177,580 in 1925, a net gain of 50,392, or 28.3 per cent. Meantime the proportion of negroes to the total farm population of the State fell from almost one-half to less than a third, or from 46 per cent in 1910, to 32 per cent in 1925. These figures are taken by the field secretary to indicate that the "Black Belt" is rapidly breaking up, as negroes leave the farms for southern cities and northern industrial centers, a movement which the Interracial Commission believes will have important sociological consequences.

During the five years ending with 1925 the entire South lost 91,459 negro farmers, or practically ten per cent of the total. Among these were 24,152 owners and managers, or 11 per cent of that group. Georgia lost 46,110 colored farmers, or 35.4 per cent; South Carolina 18,429, or 16.8 per cent; Mississippi, 11,077, or 6.0 per cent; Alabama 9,882, or 10.4 per cent; Arkansas 8,999, or 12.4 per cent; Tennessee 3,535, or 9.2 per cent; Louisiana 942, or 7.2 per cent. On the other hand, Oklahoma with 20,048 farmers in 1925 showed a gain of 7 per cent; Texas with 81,726 a gain of 3.8 per cent; Maryland with 6,721 a gain of 8.2 per cent; Virginia with 50,137 a gain of 5 per cent, and North Carolina with 80,996 a gain of 6.1 per cent.

Returning to Alabama, it is to be said that all of the negroes who have left the

farms have not left the State. From all parts of the State where negroes are to be found in numbers, they have emigrated to the industrial centers of Alabama. Like their white neighbors, they have left the farm to work on the railroads and in the industries peculiar to the Birmingham district. Another interesting aspect of the migration question is the fact, previously demonstrated in these columns, that no inconsiderable number of negro farmers have left the Black Belt for the "white counties," there to resume life on the farm, many of them buying lands in those counties. And so it is that the Black Belt of Alabama has lost a larger number of negro farmers in the past decade than may appear on the surface.

South is the Natural Abode of the Negro in This Country

The natural abode of the negro in the United States is in the South, we have long been taught. But despite this, thousands of negroes have joined in an exodus to the North in recent years. While this exodus has not been so pronounced in the past few months, many plantation negroes still visualize the North as a veritable Utopia.

Many of the negroes return to the South with their visions of prosperity shattered. Many others die in the crowded districts of the Eastern and Northern cities.

The Anniston Chamber of Commerce has recently purchased a set of health charts, compiled by Dr. S. W. Welch, head of the state board of health. Among the startling revelations that the charts make in their comparative studies is the amazingly high death rate among negroes in the North and East.

While the death rates of white people from diseases of the heart, pulmonary tuberculosis and all forms of pneumonia is decidedly lower in the South than in the Northern and Eastern states, it is even less among the negroes.

A comparative study is made with New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Indiana and Alabama. In New York there are 74.5 deaths in each white 100,000 people from pulmonary tuberculosis, while in Alabama there are only 52.5. In New York there are 395.3 deaths among the colored people, while in Alabama there are only 158.5, or less than one-half.

Deaths from diseases of the heart among white people in New York are 260.5. Pennsylvania is not far behind with 248.8. Indiana and Pennsylvania each have 194 deaths, while Alabama, with only approximately one-third of that of New York, has 93.7 deaths.

Among the negroes, 346.9 die from heart diseases in New York, while in Alabama only 154.4 die.

In deaths of negroes from all forms of pneumonia perhaps the greatest difference is shown. In New York 116.7 die among the whites, while

in Alabama 81.4 die. In New York 367.5 is the death rate from pneumonia among negroes, while Pennsylvania is not far behind with 366.4. Less than half as many negroes die in Alabama than in Pennsylvania and New York, the rate being 135.1 in this state.

When the colored people of our state begin to realize the hardships for their race in the North and East perhaps they will forget their Utopia. The South is undoubtedly the natural abode of the negro in this country. He cannot stand the congested cities and the cold weather of the North.

JUN 15 1927
OBSERVER
CHARLOTTE, N. C.
JUL 8 1927
THE MIGRATED NEGRO.



COLORED people in the South who resisted the migration fever of a few years ago have had abundant evidence that they made the choice of wisdom, for the lot of the negro who was transplanted to Northern and Western localities—we could not say "homes," because they do not know what a home is—is far worse than that of the negro who was left behind in the South. It is an old story that has revival in the Detroit report of the race clashes that occurred in that city during the Summer of 1925, and which contains developments similar to report on the Chicago riots of previous occurrence. In Detroit the mayor selected a committee of six white leaders and six colored leaders, and this committee has been functioning for over a year. Its report confirms the fact that race prejudice is not by any means a vice confined to the South, but that, on the other hand, it exists in more vicious form in the North than was ever known in the South. The Observer is drawing on The Christian Century for an analysis of the Detroit report and the conditions revealed therein. The report certainly adds some interesting data to the study of race conditions in Northern industrial areas and makes some recommendations which may prove helpful to students of race relations. The report reveals the negro population of this most prosperous of cities to be in a miserable state. The number of negroes in the city has grown from 10,000 in 1914 to 85,000 in 1926—an increase which surpasses the ratio of increase of Detroit as a whole, though the city holds the record for the last census period. This rapid influx has resulted in the usual overcrowding and high rents. The committee estimates that negroes pay from two to three times as much rent as white people for the same accommodations. Over-crowded as the colored sections are they can be expanded only at the peril of conflict. If the negro decides to avoid conflict with white neighbors and move into a negro subdivision he is exploited by real estate people who sell him lots which are mere plots of ground without a single civic

facility, such as sidewalks, sewers and water connections. The subdivision is probably outside of the city limits and there is not enough prestige in the community to make the facilities of the city available for the section.

The housing situation is the crux of the race problem in every city. If the more fortunate negro decides to escape the filth and squalor of the negro tenement district and to build his own home, he must overcome not only the ostracism of white neighborhoods but the discriminatory practices of the banks. The Detroit report declares restriction of credit to responsible Detroit negroes on the part of banks to be almost universal. Without particular malice but with a callous indifference to the social consequences of their actions, the bank officials simply assume that all negroes are shiftless as the few with whom at some time or other they may have had dealings. The tendency to universalize and generalize upon the basis of a few experiences is incidentally one of the greatest difficulties in all group relations. The man in another group is always typical, and the man in our own group is always unique.

Bad housing, over-crowding, irregular employment, lack of recreational facilities, some anti-social habits imported from the South, and illiteracy help to keep the negro crime rate high. The Detroit report shows a negro crime rate three times as high as the city average. The criminality is easily attributed to racial rather than to social and economic causes. The negro is a natural criminal, declares the general public and the police. In a period of 18 months, according to the Detroit report, the police of that city killed 24 colored criminals and alleged criminals. Not a policeman was brought to trial for any one of these killings, though the circumstances in quite a number of cases reveal the absurdity of the police fears. The report criticises "the undue severity" not to say brutality, of the police and insists that the general assumption in the department "that negro criminals offer a particular peril to the life of the officer and therefore justify unusually precipitate action in firing upon negro criminals" is unfounded. The committee asks the mayor to increase the number of colored police officers in order to remove the factor of race prejudice in the relation of the department to the colored community. This is a recommendation which might be equally well applied in almost every Northern city. In fact, the white problem is so similar in all of its details in the various industrial centers affected by the migration that many of the findings in any one city might be applied to all of them.

The handicaps which the negro faces in securing employment are well known and as universal as his other disabilities. The Detroit committee finds the situation in regard to employment for negro women particularly bad. The metal trade industries of that city offer scant opportunity for employment for women, either white or colored, and the prejudices of the public make employment in commercial houses impossible. The Detroit committee finds that "the moral consequences of this situation are particularly grave," and calls upon employers of broad social sympathies to experiment

more boldly in the employment of colored women. It also calls upon the Y. W. C. A. to organize a training school which will develop and certify the ability of colored girls in the household arts.

In the matter of educational facilities the migrated negro is particularly discriminated against. He has no separate schools such as are provided for his children in the South, and such schools as are available are presided over by white teachers. In other ways the life of the migrated negro is far less fortunate than that of the negro who remained in the South. Those who remained here have every cause to bless the wisdom that kept them among the friends who know them best and who treat them best.

Labor-1927 Migration Movement

Buckley N. Co. Sun

JUN 15 1927

Southern States Losing Negroes; Authorities To Combat Migration

ATLANTA, June 15.—A new negro migration to the north is reported underway, and authorities of some of the Southern states, especially Louisiana and Alabama, are debating a number of proposals to combat it.

One of these would be the enactment of legislation, similar to Georgia's which makes it unlawful for any labor agent to recruit negro workers for any city outside the state. Agents from Northern cities are particularly active now, it is said.

Another proposal would be to make conditions more attractive for the negro, so he would not be lured away so easily by promises of better jobs and more money in the North. Best authorities in the South admit living conditions for the negro are anything but desirable.

The only way, it is pointed out, for the Southern cities to keep their negro workers is to build better schools, better houses and better streets in the Negro sections, and higher wages and more money for recreational purposes and public parks.

Losing Population

The cities of Birmingham and New Orleans are said to be losing negro population steadily, and vigorous campaigns have been launched in both localities to check the exodus. The labor commissioner of Louisiana is authority for the statement that the building trades in New Orleans will face a "crisis" if the ranks of negro workers in the employ of contracting firms are further depleted.

The director of Industrial Relations of the Chamber of Commerce in New Orleans has issued an appeal to the negroes to remain where they are, pointing out the south is the home of the negro and that he is always "assured of the best treatment here."

The negro labor situation is reported more acute in Birmingham, and the Chamber of Commerce there has appointed agents to watch all outgoing trains in an effort to dissuade the negroes from leaving the city.

Take Legal Steps

The first legal step to control the

situation was taken in Alabama where the legislature has enacted a statute prohibiting any person from inducing workmen to leave the state "through grandiose promises of economic and social betterment." Georgia has had such a law for several years and at least a dozen have been convicted of the offense and sent to the state prison.

Social workers, however, feel that any prohibitive legislation will defeat its own purpose. They feel that laws designed to prevent negro workmen from exercising free choice is sure to build up a structure of dissatisfaction that will tend to hasten rather than retard the exodus to the North. They declare that fairness requires that the negro be allowed the same opportunity as white persons to learn of economic advantages of other parts of the country.

New Bogie Needed

Forty-seven years ago, the south was struck by a periodic migration of colored labor.

During the recent world war, several hundred thousand colored workers left Dixie farms for the northern factories.

The exodus migration however, carried workers to the west and northwest. In both instances southern dailies deprecated the leaving of workers, even tho it was to better their condition. They advised better educational facilities and better working conditions as a means of checking the movement.

In the world war period, city and state officials went further by imposing exorbitant taxes and fines upon labor agents and solicitors operating in the south. Such agents were accused of "enticing our workers" and when other means failed were driven out of town by mob methods.

Touch the south's labor and it's like grabbing a man by his sore thumb. Nor is the north much better.

Witness last week the effusions of the New York "Tribune" which in a copyrighted article sees the flames of Bolshevism kindled by Lenin and threatening at one time to set all Europe ablaze, "being quietly centered

on the United States."

The American Negro Labor Congress with headquarters in Chicago is termed a "plan of the Reds to establish an organization among the members of the race with the idea of selecting certain individuals among them for transportation to Moscow; second their instruction there in the operation and theories of Communism; 3rd their return with the purpose of bringing the whole Negro population solidly under the influence of their Red ideas and thru them eventually to strike an effective blow at the Government.

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He denied any connection between his Congress and the Russian Reds. The Congress, he said, stood for law, for the radical overthrow of capitalism and opposition to racial antagonism, segregation and Jim Crow, or such other methods as capitalists may use to keep workers in economic bondage.

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his hearers expressed subsequently in these columns. One referred to him as an "ordinary labor agitator."

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The truth of the matter is that a new bogie man is needed. We want one that will frighten the colored folk as much as it does the whites. Then we will get somewhere.

If labor agents could actually strike the south of labor and the Labor Congress actually organize 51 percent of colored workers, tremendous progress would necessarily result. Under circumstances we can't help the conclusion that the white man is as easily "scairt" as the Negro is lynched.

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The Republicans ascribed this to ill treatment, the Democrats to the operations of railroad agents. The people of Kansas welcomed them, but other states, save Indiana, were slow in their manifestations of hospitality, and the exodus soon ceased for a time. It was renewed in South Carolina in the winter of 1881-82, the design being to remove to Arkansas.

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Why Not Dignify This Love?

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Southern States Losing Negroes; Authorities to Combat Migration

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The situation was taken in Alabama where the legislature has enacted a statute prohibiting any person from inducing workmen to leave the state "through grandiose promises of economic and social betterment." Georgia has had such a law for several years and at least a dozen have been convicted of the offense and sent to the state prison.

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The director of Industrial Relations of the Chamber of Commerce in New Orleans has issued an appeal to the negroes to remain where they are, pointing out the south is the home of the Negro and that he is always "assured of the best treatment here."

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Another proposal would be to make conditions more attractive for the negro, so he would not be lured away so easily by promises of better jobs and more money in the North. Best authorities in the South admit living conditions for the negro are anything but desirable.

The only way, it is pointed out, for the Southern cities to keep their negro workers is to build better schools, better houses and better streets in the Negro sections, and higher wages and more money for recreational purposes and public parks.

Losing Population

The cities of Birmingham and New Orleans are said to be losing negro population steadily, and vigorous campaigns have been launched in both localities to check the exodus. The labor commissioner of Louisiana is authority for the statement that the building trades in New Orleans will face a "crisis" if the ranks of negro workers in the employ of contracting firms are further depleted.

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JUL 8 - 1927

THE MIGRATED NEGRO.



COLORED people in the South who resisted the migration fever of a few years ago have had abundant evidence that they made the choice of wisdom, for the lot of the negro who was transplanted to Northern and Western localities—we could not say "homes," because they do not know what a home is—is far worse than that of the negro who was left behind in the South. It is an old story that has revival in the Detroit report of the race clashes that occurred in that city during the Summer of 1925, and which contains developments similar to report on the Chicago riots of previous occurrence. In Detroit the mayor selected a committee of six white leaders and six colored leaders, and this committee has been functioning for over a year. Its report confirms the fact that race prejudice is not by any means a vice confined to the South, but that, on the other hand, it exists in more vicious form in the North than was ever known in the South. The Observer is drawing on The Christian Century for an analysis of the Detroit report and the conditions revealed therein. The report certainly adds some interesting data to the study of race conditions in Northern industrial areas and makes some recommendations which may prove helpful to students of race relations. The report reveals the negro population of this most prosperous of cities to be in a miserable state. The number of negroes in the city has grown from 10,000 in 1914 to 85,000 in 1926—an increase which surpasses the ratio of increase of Detroit as a whole, though the city holds the record for the last census period. This rapid influx has resulted in the usual overcrowding and high rents. The committee estimates that negroes pay from two to three times as much rent as white people for the same accommodations. Over-crowded as the colored sections are they can be expanded only at the peril of conflict. If the negro decides to avoid conflict with white neighbors and move into a negro subdivision he is exploited by real estate people who sell him lots which are mere plots of ground without a single civic facility, such as sidewalks, sewers and water connections. The subdivision is probably outside of the city limits and there is not enough prestige in the community to make the facilities of the city available for the section.

The housing situation is the crux of the race problem in every city. If the more fortunate negro decides to escape the filth and squalor of the negro tenement district and to build his own home, he must overcome not only the ostracism of white neighborhoods but the discriminatory practices of the banks. The Detroit report declares restriction of credit to responsible Detroit negroes on the part of banks to be almost universal. Without particular malice but with a callous indifference to the social consequences of their actions, the bank officials simply assume that all negroes are shiftless as the few with

whom at some time or other they may have had dealings. The tendency to universalize and generalize upon the basis of a few experiences is incidentally one of the greatest difficulties in all group relations. The man in another group is always typical, and the man in our own group is always unique.

Bad housing, over-crowding, irregular employment, lack of recreational facilities, some anti-social habits imported from the South, and illiteracy help to keep the negro crime rate high. The Detroit report shows a negro crime rate three times as high as the city average. The criminality is easily attributed to racial rather than to social and economic causes. The negro is a natural criminal, declares the general public and the police. In a period of 18 months, according to the Detroit report, the police of that city killed 24 colored criminals and alleged criminals. Not a policeman was brought to trial for any one of these killings, though the circumstances in quite a number of cases reveal the absurdity of the police fears. The report criticises "the undue severity" not to say brutality, of the police and insists that the general assumption in the department "that negro criminals offer a particular peril to the life of the officer and therefore justify unusually precipitate action in firing upon negro criminals" is unfounded. The committee asks the mayor to increase the number of colored police officers in order to remove the factor of race prejudice in the relation of the department to the colored community. This is a recommendation which might be equally well applied in almost every Northern city. In fact, the white problem is so similar in all of its details in the various industrial centers affected by the migration that many of the findings in any one city might be applied to all of them.

The handicaps which the negro faces in securing employment are well known and as universal as his other disabilities. The Detroit committee finds the situation in regard to employment for negro women particularly bad. The metal trade industries of that city offer scant opportunity for employment for women, either white or colored, and the prejudices of the public make employment in commercial houses impossible. The Detroit committee finds that "the moral consequences of this situation are particularly grave," and calls upon employers of broad social sympathies to experiment more boldly in the employment of colored women. It also calls upon the Y. W. C. A. to organize a training school which will develop and certify the ability of colored girls in the household arts.

In the matter of educational facilities the migrated negro is particularly discriminated against. He has no separate schools such as are provided for his children in the South, and such schools as are available are presided over by white teachers. In other ways the life of the migrated negro is far less fortunate than that of the negro who remained in the South. Those who remained here have every cause to bless the wisdom that kept them among the friends who know them best and who treat them best.

AUG 12 1927

NEGROES IN CHICAGO

So large has become the negro population of Chicago that the Daily Times of that city is printing a series of twelve stories about them, intending them to be a careful study of the negro community there and its relation to other radical and economic groups. Very pathetic is the situation revealed by the eighth of these stories which, in one sentence from the story, is described this way, "A journey through the black belt will provide the investigator with tangible evidence that for a large number of negroes Volsteadism has been beneficence itself." The same paragraph in which this sentence appears continues: "Bootlegging profits pay for many of the costly apartments which have recently been acquired by negroes. Parched customers have endowed colored liquor dealers with Rolls Royces and their women folks with costly furs and silks."

Admitting that parched customers have done the same thing for a lot of white bootleggers, one still wonders whether the negroes thus described have been made better citizens by their transfer from southern cities, or farms, to Chicago. Many of the negro men who bought the costly cars and apartments and silks and furs have been "deflated" by "higher-ups" according to the Daily News story, and from rolling in wealth one day they have gone the next day to the search for a job paying, say, as much as a chauffeur gets. The possession of a small farm in Georgia, with plenty of good, hard work, surely would be greater riches and bring greater happiness, than the ephemeral riches of a Chicago negro bootlegger, himself preying on others for a time and then preyed upon.

Mobile, Ala. Register

STUDY OF THE NEGRO EXODUS.

Charles S. Wesley, professor of history in Howard University, in his book "Negro Labor in the United States," discusses the question why negro labor leaves the farm, and concludes that negro labor, like all labor, obeys economic law. It moves in response to opportunity to better its condition. There may be other influencing causes, but this is the main one, and it is encouraging to find this fully recognized not only by the writer, but by some commentators, notably the Kansas City Star, which says:

A few observers noted at the time the movement was primarily if not almost wholly economic. But most of the discussion perhaps related to other causes or imagined causes. It was held the negroes were leaving one section of the country because they had been oppressed there; because of the practice of mob violence, and because of unequal advantages in education and in other respects. Peculiarly enough, no explanation was advanced as to why these same factors, when they had operated previously to a much greater extent than at this particular time, had not produced results then attributed to them.

It has since become evident, however, that this movement of labor, like practically all others, was due to economic conditions of an obvious sort.

It is true that there were other than these basic factors at work. These are listed in the recent study as "contributing social and political" influences. But these, as previously indicated, were not new; and they proved to be only incidental. All workers, of whatever race, ought to be allowed the best possible conditions of labor. That is one question, important enough. But nothing is gained in any case by a confusion of issues. The whole question of a shift of farm population in the United States is best understood and may be rightly dealt with, when it is necessary to be concerned with it, when the economic factors in it are given due weight.

The truth must be recognized that if a remedy is to be found for the steady drift from the land, now quite noticeable in the wheat country, the economic reason for the movement must be honestly and thoroughly investigated.

Labor-1927
Migration Movement.
Negro Migrants Not Wanted in
Massachusetts

Wanderlust and the spirit of adventure manifested themselves strongest in the nomadic element of our population with the advent of the balmy days of spring. Seasonal workers will soon begin their annual pilgrimages to various parts of the country. Unsophisticated upstarts who have arrived at the age where they believe it is their duty to go out and conquer the world hear the rumbling of locomotive wheels and the whistle of steamboats with the urge to pack bag and baggage and be going—be where it makes little difference so long as it is going somewhere.

To those workers of our group who are planning to go North or West within the next few weeks, it would be well for them to ponder long and act unhastily. In another column of this paper Mr. Leonard Ware Jr., of Boston Urban League, paints a gloomy picture of the Negro's opportunity in industry in the City of Boston. New England, it is true, doubtless offers more genuine freedom for the colored man than any other section of the United States, but it is also true that in this section his opportunity to earn a living is more proscribed than it is in the most prejudiced parts of the South. Mr. Ware found that in 124 industries in Boston less than 30 Negroes were employed, and he says "it is apparent that we are not permitted to enter even the unskilled labors in Boston."

National Urban League reports from other sections of the country carry a warning to Negroes of the South that any appreciable influx of workers this spring is likely to prove a serious problem for employees in the industrial centers. Unemployment is conspicuous here and there, the demand for laborers is unsteady, and workmen of the South should be wary of hurrying North or West this summer.

This newspaper has never compromised in defense of the irritating conditions in the South from which many of our group migrate North to escape, but we fail to see in migration an exclusive specific panacea for our ills. The great agricultural stretches of the South are veritable sources of wealth, and we believe that our people will do well to anchor to these sources, with the determination that through thrift, industry, education and a real manly spirit to work to the end that the South must and shall prove a better place in which to live.

The Cure For Negro Migration

The Virginian-Pilot, in an editorial under the caption "A New Negro Migration" reprinted in another column on this page, puts its finger on the precise cure for the whole matter of Negro migration over which various sections of the South intermittently become alarmed. "The only way for Southern cities or Southern rural districts to keep their Negro workers is to make conditions attractive enough to create in them a desire to stay," says the Virginian-Pilot. That statement constitutes a most elemental truth, yet it is strange that the South does not or will not see it.

As the Norfolk paper points out, stringent labor-agent laws, persuasion from Negro pulpits and prohibitory legislation designed to prevent Negroes from exercising free choice for whom and where they shall labor will have not the slightest effect in curbing Negro migration as long as the exodus is stimulated by silly laws such as the barbershop measures of Georgia and South Carolina, which deprive Negroes of the right to enter into economic competition with other citizens; ghetto residence restrictions; barbarism like the Aiken lynching, and, more lately noticeable, the determination to shut the colored workman out of skilled occupations. New Orleans, we recall, recently sought to restrict Negro habitation in that city to segregate slums through legislation which ultimately failed before the Supreme Court. New Orleans at this very moment is the object of ridicule and laughter from more enlightened communities because of its withdrawal of an invitation to the Amateur Athletic Union to hold its annual meet there in July because colored athletes were to compete in the events. Now that city is much exercised over the fact that its Negro labor has decided to seek a freer and more civilized community in which to live.

Certainly this is strange reasoning. It is a kind that does not accord the Negro with the instinct of self-preservation—common even to the beasts.

Asheville, N. C.
James
FEB 20 1927
Seek to Curb
Negro Hegira
To The North

Tuskegee, Ala., Feb. 15.—(AP)—The Negro Welfare and Publicity Bureau of this city has taken up the task of pointing out "dangers" and difficulties for negroes seeking work in northern states.

Pamphlets are mailed each month by the bureau and show the

varying wage scales, indicating the low wages paid in some parts of the north as against high wages received in industrial plants in Dixie.

According to E. H. Lewis, president of the organization promises of labor agents frequently cause untold trouble for southern negroes.

PICKSBURG, MISS., March 1

APR 14 1927

NEGROES AGAIN LURED TO CHICAGO

Reports received here state that many negroes are again being induced to go from Southern cities to Chicago under the promise of high wages and social equality, two things they find later do not exist for negroes in Chicago. Also it is said there now are about 25,000 Southern negroes out of work in Chicago, and that many of them are in want.

Just what is back of the attempt to lure negroes from the South to Northern centers is not very clear. Whatever it is the negroes are the ultimate victims, for they invariably find the promises false and learn too late that they have been deceived. Most of those who are induced to go to the North are financially unable to get back to their Southern homes again.

The Southern negro who goes north expecting to find conditions better than in Southern cities or communities invariably meets with disappointment. The

several thousands of negroes who were deceived into going to the North several years ago furnished an object lesson that should have an influence now upon the movements of negroes away from the South. Some of those who left their work and their homes in the South to seek fancy wages and social equality are still in the North, with no wages at all and nothing that even remotely resembles social equality. They are too poor to get back where they belong, in the South.

The negro belongs in the South. He does better in the South than anywhere else, but he does not have social equality in the South and does not expect it.

In the North he is among people who do not understand him, who do not care whether he has food or not, who would not under any circumstances extend social equality, and who pay fancy wages only when they cannot get along without paying them. The untrained negro worker, of course cannot command more than the pay of an untrained worker, either in the North or the South, and to promise him more merely is to try to deceive him. The best thing the Southern negro can do is to stay in the South.

NEGROES RETURNING TO SOUTH GEORGIA

Quitman, Ga., March 21.—(Special) During the past few days several large trucks loaded to the running boards with negroes have passed through Quitman, Georgia, and Georgia points. The negroes are returning from Florida work again in the fields of the agricultural section.

It is stated that labor conditions in southwest Georgia are much better than in the past years and that many negroes are returning to their homes.

Labor

Migration Movements.
LEADER

SEP 1927

Exodus of Negroes to Cotton Fields Began Some Time Last Week

The negro section of the city has approximately one hundred less people since the opening of the cotton picking season in the southern part of the state last week. Sunday a party of forty negroes left for a large cotton farm at Frederick.

A number of cotton pickers go from here each year to this Frederick planter. He forwards their fare, and to get more pickers, offers a dollar for each additional picker sent him. Cotton in the Frederick section is fairly good this season, and an expert picker can earn from five to ten dollars a day. Labor is scarcer in that part of the state, due to the large tracts farmed by the owners, and due also to their being for from a city.

By week after next, it is expected that half of the local negro population will be in the cotton fields, since the high price received for cotton will make the farmers in a hurry to get it to market, hence attractive wages to pickers.

Farmer near Sand Springs state they do not anticipate a shortage of pickers in Tulsa County.

Mayor Murray Seasongood. This action is a result of the reign of terror alleged to exist in the city's west end, known as the black belt, owing to the fact that practically forty thousand Negroes, principally from the states named, have colonized the former aristocratic stone front residential districts of the city, and have recently entered the whisky moonshining business on an extensive scale and often engage in gun battles with police patrolling that district.

According to Mayor Seasongood, these undesirable blacks have been sent north by the officials of numerous Southern cities in an effort to clean up the central Southern states at the expense of this city. Other authorities claim that investigation has shown that a larger proportion of the black belt's population has been gained through the extensive operations of fake labor agencies, who have misled Southern Negroes with stories of high pay, steady employment and first-class living quarters and cleaned up fortunes by fees and transportation charges gained from these unfortunates, who now find themselves classed as undesirables and either thrown in the big new city workhouse, county jail or herded together for deportation in case of illness or placed on the city rock pile without any wages whatsoever under framed-up charges of a criminal nature.

NASHVILLE TENN. BUREAU

NOV 7 1927

CINCINNATI

ALL

DEPO.

NEGROES

Thousands of Blacks Colonize Former Fine Residential District.

Cincinnati, Nov. 7.—(Special.)—Sweeping deportation of several thousand alleged undesirable Negro citizens back to their former homes in the states of Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama has been decided upon by the city heads here, according to an announcement made here today by